THE TIMES

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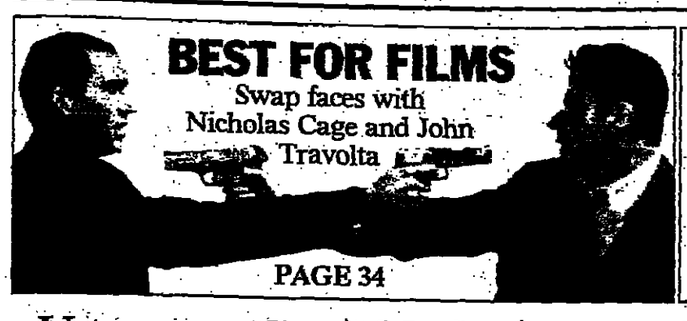
No. 66,040 THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6 1997 http://www.the-times.co.uk



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BEST FOR JOBS
WANTED

Graduate	20K
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Analyst	35K
Director	100K

32 PAGES IN TWO SECTIONS

U-turn on Grand Prix sponsorship

Blair accused of wrecking tobacco ban

BY CHARLES BREMNER, JILL SHERMAN AND IAN MURRAY

TONY BLAIR was accused yesterday of destroying an eight-year effort to end cigarette advertising across Europe after he decided to exempt Formula One motor racing from a tobacco sponsorship ban.

The Prime Minister's U-turn has probably scuppered any chance of a Europe-wide advertising ban this century — the EU had expected to approve one next month. It has also infuriated the health lobby, which said the Government had been blackmailed, and other sports, which also demanded exemptions.

The Prime Minister was personally persuaded to exempt Formula One by leaders of the sport two weeks ago. They told him that if tobacco sponsorship were banned, grand prix races would moved away from the EC to eastern Europe or the Far East. They would be still shown on British television, however, complete with the prominent tobacco advertisements. It would be better, they argued, to exempt Formula One from the ban and leave the sport's governing body to impose a voluntary code reducing tobacco promotion at tracks.

Yesterday Downing Street defended the decision, saying it would safeguard 50,000 jobs in the motor industry. And Tessa Jowell, Public Health Minister who has been negotiating with the tobacco and sports industries for months, said it was an example of "practical politics". She insisted that it was not a U-turn as Labour had always promised to safeguard sport.

But the British Medical Association described the decision as a serious disappointment. Dr Sandy Macara, the chairman, said: "Clearly an unholy alliance of the tobacco manufacturers and the Formula One organisers has put the Government in an impossible position. This must not signal a retreat from effective

UK and global action to control access to tobacco and the marketing of cigarettes."

Clive Bates, director of the anti-smoking campaign group ASH, described the decision as depressing, but not surprising. "The tobacco industry and Formula One have heavied the Government."

The sports industry was also up in arms. Robert Holmes, of the British Darts Organisation, led the demands for all sports to be given the same treatment, saying: "The grands prix have got lots of clout and we are pleased there has been this U-turn in regard to them — we can only hope it will open the way for commonsense to prevail in the working class sports like darts, snooker, fishing, pool and rugby."

News of the Government's decision came as a "bombshell" to the European Commission only weeks before a council meeting where it had expected to secure agreement on a new directive on tobacco advertising.

EU members have been pressing for a deal for years but Britain, Germany, The Netherlands and Greece have been blocking agreement. With the change of Goverment in Britain, the Commission had been confident that it would get the proposal through at the Council of Ministers meeting on December 4. But the Commission has now threatened to withdraw the whole directive.

A spokeswoman for Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, said: "It's a disaster, a complete U-turn. This could spell the end of the directive, obliging the Commission to withdraw the proposal. This has been on the table since 1989 and we are not prepared to proceed with something that we know will not command enough support." British and Dutch approval should have guaranteed that the law would go through, even though Germany, the EU's biggest cigarette producer, and Greece, with its tobacco-growing industry, are holding out.

Mr Flynn received word of Britain's abrupt change of heart on Tuesday evening as health officials in Brussels put finishing touches to the law, which would have banned tobacco advertising anywhere except the point of sale. Miss Jowell sent Mr Flynn a copy of a letter she had written to Luxembourg — the current EU president — saying that Britain could not accept the law unless Formula One racing were exempted because it was a "global sport" with greater dependence than any other on tobacco sponsorship.

Mr Flynn "immediately hit the phone" and told Miss Jowell that the move could scupper the whole law, officials said. He also wrote to her making the same point.

Miss Jowell's husband, David Mills, is a solicitor whose firm represents Benetton, whose Formula One racing team is sponsored by a Japanese tobacco company. But Mr Mills resigned as a non-executive director of Benetton Formula Ltd and stopped acting for them on tobacco sponsorship when his wife was appointed.

The deal, page 10

CHRIS ISON/SOUTH WEST NEWS SERVICE

Camilla Parker Bowles out with the Beaufort Hunt in Gloucestershire yesterday

Blair rejects hunting Bill

BY POLLY NEWTON
POLITICAL REPORTER

TONY BLAIR yesterday ruled out allowing government time for anti-hunting legislation in this parliamentary session.

He told Labour MPs that he would not risk the loss of key government business through lengthy arguments about hunting. Supporters of a ban had hoped that a Private Member's Bill to end hunting with hounds, put forward by Michael Foster, Labour MP for Worcester, would receive official backing. Without government time, the Bill will not become law no matter how many MPs vote for it when it receives its second reading on November 28.

Mr Blair's comments, in his traditional autumn address to the Parliamentary Labour Party, killed off any lingering speculation that Mr Foster's Bill could be enacted.

In response to criticism from some anti-hunting MPs, Mr Blair said they should focus their anger on the Conservatives: "It is the Tories who are to blame. Without their determination to oppose and block this Bill, it could pass through Parliament relatively easily."

He warned the parliamentary party to prepare for a rougher ride as the Government faced difficult and potentially unpopular decisions. He said that in many ways the first six months in government had gone more smoothly than MPs might have expected. But there were harder times ahead. "What is important is that we know the direction we are going in. It means that, at the end of five years, we can show that we have honoured our pledges and taken the country in the direction of modernisation and justice."

He added that five years was not enough time for Labour to achieve all its goals and he urged Labour MPs to help to secure the party another term in office, warning them not to underestimate or ignore the Conservatives.

Heseltine and Clarke put Europe first, says Lamont

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

NORMAN LAMONT moved last night to undermine the Conservative pro-European fightback by accusing Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine of caring more about Europe than the pound and alleging that Mr Clarke once said that Britain should be absorbed into a federal Europe.

In an article in *The Times* today, the former Chancellor says he has always regarded Mr Clarke as a European federalist and discloses a private conversation with him which he believes supports that contention.

He also makes plain that he blames Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine for the scale of losses suffered by Britain on Black Wednesday four years ago.

He writes that years ago when they were young front benchers under Margaret Thatcher he and Mr Clarke disagreed sharply about Europe and Mr Clarke said that "the sooner the House of Commons becomes a county council the better".

He adds: "I remember those words because they did somewhat shock me. I have often reflected on them, but never referred to them until now."

Mr Lamont's attack took the Tory battle to a new level of bitterness. Last night Mr Clarke denied his claims about the private conversation: "I have no idea what he is talking about. It has never been my view. There never was any such conversation. Norman's memory is playing terrible tricks on him."

The clash came as William Hague ordered all Conservative MPs, including Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine, to vote next week against the Government's Bill ratifying the Amsterdam treaty. He decided to face down their expected rebellion by offering no concessions to the pro-Europeans, and imposing a three-line whip.

There were immediate signs that he had snuffed out a revolt. Nineteen Tory MPs at a meeting of the Postitive Europe group decided to vote in line with Mr Hague's wishes because of their opposition to the social chapter in the Amsterdam treaty.

Mr Lamont has chosen the day that the Conservative Mainstream group relaunches itself to fight against Mr Hague's decision to oppose the single currency at the next election, to deliver a savage attack on the pro European movement's two leading players. He accuses them of learning nothing from Britain's forced exit from the ERM. And he blames them for allowing currency speculators to profit from the Black Wednesday four years ago.

He says that as he sat with them in Admiralty Arch as the momentous events unfolded he had wanted to get the pound out of the ERM, as did the Bank of England. But for Mr Heseltine and Mr Clarke "Europe came first."

He adds: "They insisted interest rates were increased to 15 per cent, when all the time currency speculators were coming to the Bank of England to dump pounds." He then goes on: "Like the Bourbons, they have learnt nothing from history."

He says that then Mr Heseltine and Mr Clarke were prepared to pay a very high price to stay within the ERM. "Today they seem equally determined that the Conservative Party should pay a very high price if it is not prepared to leave open the option of joining the single currency."

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Louise decision web site crashes

The web site for the Massachusetts lawyers' newspaper on which Judge Hiller B. Zobel is to post his decision in the Louise Woodward case crashed after thousands of Britons logged on when they woke up Page 5

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Airbus in safe crash landing

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JOANNA BALE

THE pilot of a Virgin Atlantic Airbus A340 was told he had "done a marvellous job" last night after he made a emergency landing at Heathrow airport without causing any serious injuries to passengers.

The Airbus, with 114 people on board, was down to its last 15 minutes' flying time as it landed without one set of landing gear, forcing it to skid to a halt in a blaze of sparks.

Last-ditch attempts to force the landing gear down had to be abandoned after the pilot told air traffic controllers that he had nearly run out of fuel.

The pilot, Captain Tim Barnby had already tried to "shake" down the left wing's landing gear through abrupt movements of the aircraft as it circled over London. Captain Barnby put out a Mayday call after making a 300-ft high flypast close to the Heathrow control tower so that technical experts could look closely at the undercarriage.

As the plane landed, it was forced to tip on to one of its four engines at about 100mph and grind to a halt as firefighters swamped the runway and the plane with foam.

The stricken aircraft on the runway last night

Relieved air traffic controllers told Captain Barnby he had performed "a bloody marvellous job" in bringing the aircraft to a halt without veering off the runway or bursting into flames.

The captain said: "I was trying to shake the undercarriage using positive G-force to try and get it down. They told us the gear was definitely stuck. I then kept the plane upright to bring it down. I don't think what I did was heroic — it was all in a day's work."

Captain Barnby had initially planned to attempt a "touch and go" procedure of "dumping" the aircraft on to the runway before taking off again, in the hope of releasing the landing gear.

Nine passengers and crew were treated for minor injuries after the aircraft was evacuated using emergency chutes. The temporary closure of the airport caused three-hour delays to some flights and Heathrow warned that further delays would continue today.

Air accident investigators were last night examining the undercarriage to try to discover why one of four sets of landing gear had failed to come down.

Quick-draw pub lottery 'faces ban'

THE Government faces a row over plans to ban rapid-draw lottery games in pubs — threatening to deprive charities including ChildLine and Mencap of up to £100 million a year (Jon Ashworth writes).

The decision, expected to be announced next week, bears the mark of Camelot, the National Lottery operator, which has lobbied hard against the introduction of rival lottery games.

Lord Mancroft, the Conservative peer behind Pronto! — to be launched in pubs later this month — said the legality of the game has been confirmed by the Gaming Board: "If the Government wishes to change the law, it will have to go back to Parliament."

Mystery benefactors give £15m to rescue opera

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

WEALTHY benefactors have responded to a cry for help from the beleaguered Royal Opera House, donating £15 million to keep the company afloat until the opening of a new building in two years' time.

The identity of the patrons — described only as long-standing Covent Garden fans — has not been revealed, though the ROH emphasised that they included neither of its most active benefactors — Vivien Duffield and Lord Sainsbury, whose £2 million loan bailed out the company in July.

A series of crisis meetings began at 7am yesterday and the board put together proposals for submission to the Arts Council. The ROH chairman, Lord Chadlington, who had disclosed on Tuesday that the company could be bankrupt within a week, said: "We believe we have raised the necessary funds until the house reopens ... I never believed we couldn't find a way through this."

Emergency meetings brought agreement "in principle" on funding to underpin an expected £7 million deficit — a figure exacerbated by disappointing ticket sales during some Royal Ballet and Royal Opera's performances away from Covent Garden. The ROH added that performances will go ahead as planned.

Lord Chadlington said: "It is an act of great faith in the Royal Opera House that new donors have now pledged their support." He added that it meant the ROH had a strong financial footing as it examined plans by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, to house English National Opera on the same Covent Garden site as the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet.

The idea, and a suggestion that the companies should tour for two-thirds of the year, continued to cause outrage in opera circles yesterday. David Pountney, now directing *Rienzi* at the Vienna State Opera and who was English National Opera's director of productions, said: "You can't play with the identity of theatres and companies by saying it doesn't matter who owns the theatres."

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Open View

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Whatever can it be that turns Dr Jekyll into Mr Snide?

POLITICAL SKETCH

A CREEPY story is emerging between the lines of Wednesday's Commons Questions: the tale of Prime Minister Jekyll and Tony Hyde. Prime Minister Jekyll is a fair-minded fellow with a ready ear for the other chap's point of view. Generous in debate and civil in manner, his whole wish is to lift the argument to a higher plane.

Whatever your opinion, magnanimous Prime Minister Jekyll can find something with which to agree. Relaxed, high-toned and tolerant, he yearns for an end to the petty point-scoring which poisons our politics. Prizing country above Party, he invites all who care about Britain to join him in prayerful contemplation of the national good.

How sharp is the contrast with a very different fellow! Tony Hyde is vituperative and sly. Ever-vigilant for a means of wrong-footing opponents, his instinct is to avoid the argument and kick them in the nuts. Tony Hyde is uncompromisingly partisan, quick to sneer, to mock and — in victory — to crow.

Both these gentlemen appear at the dispatch box on Wednesdays. Prime Minister Jekyll and the Rt Hon Tony Hyde being wont to take turns in answering backbenchers.

Thus it was that at 3pm yesterday it was Tony Hyde who took the first question, which was by chance from a Tory, Nigel Evans (Ribble Valley). Evans was worried about the EU budget. "I don't think I've ever heard such nonsense," sneered Hyde. Then (though nobody had raised this) he began to attack the "negative, foolish" attitude of the previous government.

Next, a Labour backbencher, Helen Jones (Lab, Warrington N) asked about the International Development White Paper. By chance it was the Prime Minister who took this one.

Genially he agreed with her, and offered a thoughtful disquisition on overseas aid. But it was Tony Hyde who took the question which followed, from Opposition Leader William Hague. Hyde simply refused to answer Hague's question about new EU proposals to regulate small business.

Instead he just kept shuffling his notes and attacking the last government. Pressed repeatedly by Hague, Hyde grew angrier and more mocking. Finally, he began shouting "business prefers *this* side's position!", and turning round, grinning, to his friends for endorsement, like a playground bully.

It was a relief, then, to find Prime Minister Jekyll on his feet next, to answer a Labour backbencher, Peter Pike (Burnley), on the wind-chill factor. "My hon Friend is absolutely right," he agreed.

Labour backbencher Claire Ward (Watford) asked about threats to the Lottery. Jekyll was genial: "My hon Friend is absolutely right." "My hon Friend is absolutely right," he smiled to Oona King (Lab, Bethnal Green & Bow) who wanted a fitting memorial for the civilian war-dead. "My hon Friend is absolutely right," was his answer to the Labour backbencher who wanted new powers to supervise sex-offenders.

To Charles Clarke (Lab, Norwich S): "My hon Friend is absolutely right." And his reaction to the thoughts of Labour's Austin Mitchell (Grimsby) on international debt relief? "My hon friend is absolutely right." How unlucky that this Prime Minister was never on hand when an Opposition member rose. To these Tony Hyde, instead, offered a string of gibes, taunts and sneaky references to their own problems.

We cannot guess by what rule of thumb Prime Minister Jekyll and Tony Hyde decided to divide the questions between them. We merely note that they seem to have formed a useful working arrangement. Could they by any chance be related?

Rail watchdog to be fettered by ministers

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS will today tighten control of the rail regulator amid astonishment that he has bowed to pressure from train companies and abandoned plans to name firms giving poor information to passengers.

New guidelines will be published today forcing John Swift to work more closely with ministers over his handling of the companies.

The move comes as it emerged that Mr Swift has torn up plans to publish league tables showing which of the 25 train operators give the best and worst information to passengers.

Senior railway executives threatened to take legal action if Mr Swift went ahead with plans to expose the worst-performing companies. They claimed that serious flaws in a survey he set up had produced misleading and inaccurate information. The results will not now break down figures according to individual train operator.

Ministers are said to be "baffled" that the the survey was not sound enough to withstand the train companies' campaign.

Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, will today tell the Commons in a written answer that Mr Swift will be expected to work more closely with ministers in future. Mr Swift will have to place more emphasis on the need to reflect the public subsidy paid into railways. Ministers have already made clear that greater public control of the railways will be a priority of future railway legislation.

Mr Strang will also make clear today that the franchising director, which awarded contracts of up to 15 years to run train services, should consult ministers more frequently on future franchise sales.

Mr Swift has been forced to delay since July the publication of the first "mystery shopper" survey in which nearly 5,000 requests for fares and timetable information have been analysed. Originally, he planned to publish the results as a league table of operators but the train companies have mounted a series of challenges to his findings, most of which he has accepted.

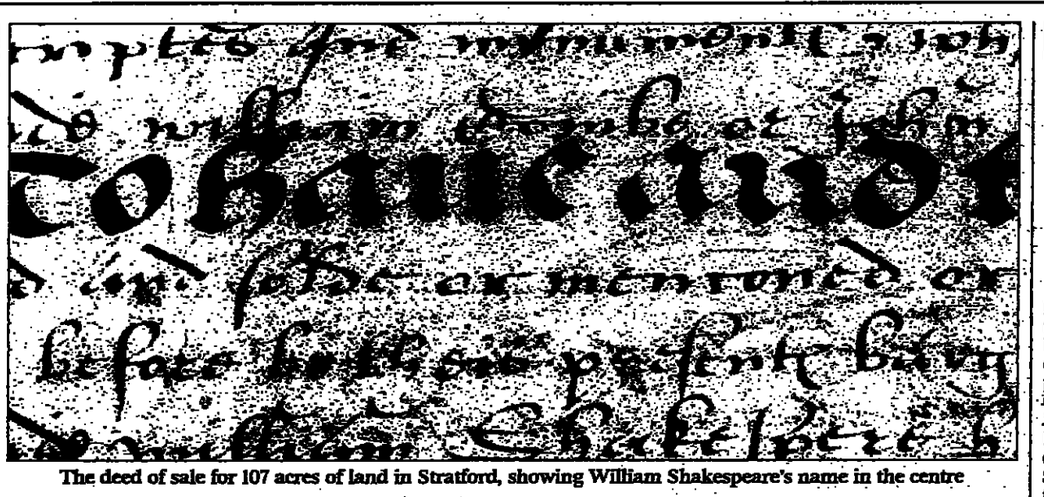
The survey, to be published this month, found that about one in ten requests for information was answered wrongly. However, train companies say that officials conducting the survey were unaware that updated fares information had been published, correcting earlier information.

The Association of Train Operating Companies tackled Mr Swift over the findings. David Campbell Bannerman, the association's corporate affairs director, said: "We made our views known in a robust way but it was not a huge row."

However, one senior railway manager said last night he had been "livid" over the plan to publish a "list of shame". "We are trying to put right years of poor performance on the railways and we expect the regulator to work towards improvement constructively, not by putting one company in the stocks just to gain some headlines."

Relations between the regulator and some companies have become increasingly strained since the general election, when Mr Swift began taking a harder line. Fines of £350,000 have been imposed on the companies for their failure to hit targets for answering nine out of ten calls.

The latest survey by Mr Swift's office was intended to show how many of those queries that were answered, either by counter staff or on the telephone, were answered accurately.



The deed of sale for 107 acres of land in Stratford, showing William Shakespeare's name in the centre

Bard's most boring work for sale

Rare document relating to his life emerges, reports Dalya Alberge

A YELLOWING deed dating from 1602 relating to the sale of 107 acres of land in Stratford is expected to excite collectors into paying more than £300,000 at auction.

The 20¾ by 31¼ in parchment confirms the sale of strips of land to William Shakespeare who rented it out to local farmers. The legal document that he must have handled is one of only 13 documents directly relating to Shakespeare's life. Nothing comparable is likely to be offered again because the 12 others are in public institutions.

Peter Beal, a specialist at Sotheby's, which will sell it on December 12, said: "This document is a relic of a creative genius without parallel. It brings us as close to Shakespeare the man as will ever be possible."

Lord Morris, former general editor of the *New Arden Shakespeare*, said: "This shows he was not an airy genius with his head in the clouds; while he was creating the greatest works in his canon, he was fiddling around with a bit of land."

Another leading scholar, Henry Woudhuysen, a Professor of English at University College London, said: "It would be a great pity if it left the country because it shows Shakespeare's growing wealth."

The document had been loaned for 20 years to Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust Record Office in Stratford from the collections of the Earls of Warwick. The 4th Earl (1818-93), a Shakespeare intellectual, had amassed an extraordinarily rich library at Warwick Castle.

Shakespeare: evidence of his growing wealth

The deed records that Shakespeare paid £320 for a series of strips of unenclosed fields within the parish of Stratford. Although the exact location is hard to pinpoint, it primarily lies near the present Guild Street.

The deed records the transfer of ownership: " ... *the saide william Combe and John Combe for and in Consideracon of the somme of Three hundred and Twentie poundes of currant Englishe money ... doe fallie Clearlie and absolutelie aliên bargayne sell give graunte and Confirme unto the saide William Shakespere All and singuler those errable landes ... lyinge or beinge within the parrishe feilds or towne of Olde Stretford aforesaid in the saide Countie of warwick ...*"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Straw joins mourners at WPC's funeral

More than 1,000 officers attended the funeral of WPC Nina Mackay who was murdered 12 days ago leading a police arrest team in Stratford, east London. The service at St John the Baptist church in Loughton, Essex, was attended by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Paul Condon. Officers were given special leave to attend the one-hour service, which was relayed by closed-circuit television. WPC Mackay, 25, was later cremated privately.

Photograph, page 24

TUC injury plan

Trades unions won a record £330 million last year in compensation for members injured at work. The TUC now plans to put proposals to the Lord Chancellor for a workplace "legal aid" scheme under which uniens would a reach agreements with insurance companies on rehabilitation schemes for injury victims.

Labour gag stays

The rules committee of the European Parliament yesterday rejected, by the casting vote of its Luxembourg chairman, an attempt by four British Labour dissidents — Ken Coates, Hugh Kerr, Alex Falconer and Michael Hindley — to have it overrule a party order that bans its MEPs from voicing views on changes in the electoral system.

Admission policy

Doctors must be more open about any harm caused by their actions or treatment, the General Medical Council decided, agreeing that if things go wrong a doctor must explain what happened to the patient and close family. New guidelines will be included in its *Good Medical Practice* booklet, a breach of which can lead to disciplinary action.

DNA appeal

French judicial officials investigating the murder of Caroline Dickinson arrived in her home town of Launceston yesterday, their second visit to Cornwall since her death in a Brittany youth hostel 16 months ago. They will ask Home Office scientists to compare a DNA sample from the killer with the British database of sex offenders.

Window ruling

An ecclesiastical court ruled in favour of parishioners at Holy Trinity Church, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, after a seven-year battle to install a stained-glass window by a local artist, the late John Petts, whose work has been accepted in more than 60 other churches. Diocesan officials had claimed it was not up to the standard of earlier work.

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Blunkett masterclass for gifted children

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

GIFTED children from primary schools will be offered "masterclasses" in an expanded network of specialist secondary schools, David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, announced last night.

He accused defenders of "sameness for all" of putting their own interests above those of pupils and their parents. Classes in science, technology, languages, arts and physical education could be offered to children of 10 and 11 who are two years ahead of their peers.

Communication technologies may be used to make the scheme available to children who do not have a specialist centre nearby.

About 400,000 secondary pupils would attend technology colleges by 2001. Tony Blair wants to increase the 258 existing colleges to 450, while extending their facilities to pupils in other state schools. In a lecture to the Technology Colleges Trust, in London, Mr Blunkett said: "We must have more specialist schools which offer diversity within a single campus.

"We must allow children to play to their individual strengths and aptitudes. Those who want to see sameness for all are betraying our children. Comprehensive education must modernise. It cannot be stuck forever in the past — what some might see as a Sixties timewarp."

The remarks sparked a new row over with the teacher unions, which said the initiative would lead to more selection of pupils. Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "What is now dismissed as sameness used to be regarded by Labour politicians as equality of access."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the biggest teaching union, the National Union of Teachers, said: "Meeting the specialist needs of particular pupils must be taken out of the contentious debate on pupil admissions. If there is to be equality of opportunity for all pupils, schools and local authorities should be encouraged to set up separate specialist centres so that all pupils, whatever school they attend, can have equal access."

College fees deal is on the cards

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

GOVERNMENT advisers paved the way for a compromise over Oxford and Cambridge college fees yesterday, promising to safeguard teaching and research at the universities if ministers decide to reform the system.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England presented ministers with a series of options, including the retention of fees worth £37 million a year, but hinted that the eventual outcome would reduce state support. A decision is expected before the end of the month.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, asked the funding council to examine the issue after Sir Ron Dearing's report on higher education said the universities should justify receiving extra fees. Education ministers are thought to favour scrapping the fees, but Downing Street is anxious not to damage the top universities.

A middle way likely to be introduced next year would see college fees replaced by grant paid direct to the universities. Oxford and Cambridge have lobbied hard to retain the fees, which fund the colleges' individual tuition.

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Krishna and the order of the boot

British Hindus are calling for a boycott of footwear named after gods and Clarks says it has all been a terrible mistake. **Ruth Gledhill** reports

IT SEEMED like a good idea at Clarks when someone came up with the names Vishnu and Krishna for two designs of their trendy footwear. Last night, the shoe company was the target of calls for a boycott by the 900,000-strong British Hindu community for "blasphemy" over the names of gods.

Demonstrations are being organised this weekend in protest against the ladies' leather shoes and boots. The footwear is considered doubly offensive because not only is the cow sacred in Hindu theology, but shoes are considered unclean and unfit to be worn in temples.

Clarks is the second shoe company to find itself in religious difficulties recently. Nike was criticised for using the Islamic symbol for Allah on a range of training shoes.

In Hindu theology Vishnu, the "preserver", is the controller of human fate and the symbol of divine love, often appearing mounted on the heavenly eagle. Krishna is his most popular incarnation, and is most commonly portrayed as a cowherd.

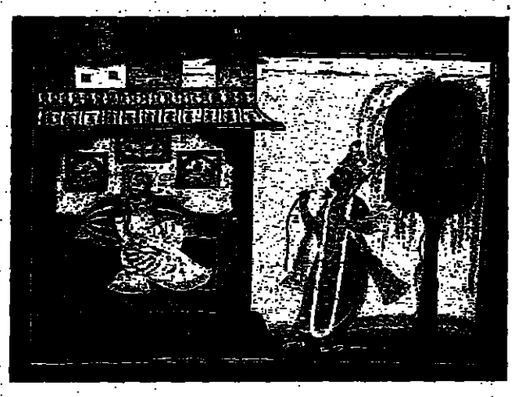
Clarks gives names to its shoes to help its sales personnel manage their stock. The names do not appear on the shoes, but on the boxes in which they are supplied as well as catalogues.

Vishnu, a £30 sandal in metallic, black or navy, and Krishna, an £89 black boot, have been on sale in 600 Clarks shops nationwide as well as hundreds of independent retailers. The difficulty first came to light this summer in Leicester, home to Britain's biggest Hindu community, after a Hindu bought the summer sandal and noticed the product name on the shoe box.

Community leaders say that they complained to Clarks, but have now gone public with their protests because Clarks not only failed to withdraw the summer sandal, but have now introduced the winter Krishna boot. The sandal has now sold out, but Clarks have no plans to withdraw the boot.

Clarks has apologised for offence caused, and instructed all its shops to cover over the names of the shoes. But Hindus, who have recently celebrated Diwali, the annual "festival of lights", are demanding the total withdrawal of the boot.

Vishnu, above, and Krishna: the company should have done more research, say the Hindu critics



Harish Karunashanker Purohit, of the Federation of Hindu Priests, said: "It is blasphemous and inappropriate to have gods' names associated with shoes. Krishna and Vishnu are as well known as Jesus is throughout the western world. We find it extremely offensive and want a public apology."

Lord Bagri, a leading member of Britain's lay Hindu community and chairman of the London Metal Exchange, said: "I am disappointed and concerned by the lack of research by the company. In a multi-racial, multi-religious society like we have in this country, it is the obligation of marketing departments to make sure that they do not cause offence to religions and other sensitivities."

Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East, which has a large Hindu population, said: "You are not supposed to call the things you walk on after gods. The Christian equivalent would be to name a line of shoes after Jesus and the Virgin Mary. Clarks would not think of doing that."

"I am very concerned, and have written to Clarks to ask for an explanation. I don't want to go over the top, but there are religious points that need looking into. People need to be sensitive to other religions in the same way as they would be towards Christianity."

Mr Mahesh Chander Prasher, a member of the National Council of Hindu Temples, said his faith could not have been more insulted: "Footwear is considered unclean in our religion and that is why shoes are always removed on entering our temples. Hindus also considered the cow to be sacred so to associate both footwear and leather products with our gods causes huge offence and insult."

However, a spokesman for the Hindu mission at the ornate new temple at Neasden, north-west London urged forgiveness: "I am sure it was not meant to be disrespectful. Mistakes happen and it is a part of human life. The fact that products are named after gods does not affect the status of the gods." In 1992, Hindus demanded that a French-based waste management company removed its initials "SITA" from rubbish vans operating in Leicester, because Sita is the name of the Hindu goddess of purity.

Clarks admitted last night they would not have used the names for their shoes had they been aware of their significance. A spokesman, John Keery, said: "The names only appear in a catalogue for internal use and on a label on the shoe box. The customer would not be asking for them by name. They would only realise what the name was when they got the box to take the product home, and some customers do not use the boxes, they use plastic carrier bags.

"The names are used because there are so many different styles in shop, the staff find it easier to identify them by a name. We didn't realise in using the names that they were of such religious significance that they were likely to cause offence. If we had, we wouldn't have used them."

He said the names of the Hindu gods just "came into the head" of the person whose job it was to name the shoes. He did not believe this person was a Hindu. The boot is still on the shelves: "An instruction went out ten days ago for the name to be obscured."

Krishna boot on display at a Leicester store. The name is being covered up

Collins: overdose

Mother driven to suicide by guilt

By Simon de Bruxelles

A WOMAN whose six-year-old daughter died after drinking a glass of wine committed suicide because she blamed herself, an inquest was told yesterday. Sarah Collins, 32, took an overdose of paracetamol tablets three years after giving her daughter, Stacey, the wine with a cheese and pineapple roll for supper.

Her daughter's death haunted her and, two days before taking her life, she wrote to a friend saying that she intended to kill herself. When police, alerted by the friend, broke into Miss Collins's flat, they found a pile of empty tablet bottles alongside a suicide note addressed to her brother.

The inquest was told that Miss Collins, from Swansea, had been sentenced to three years' probation by Cardiff Crown Court in May 1995 after admitting cruelty to the child through wilful neglect. The trial judge had told her at the time: "I don't believe you would have done anything to deliberately harm your daughter, whom you loved dearly, but you must bear a significant level of responsibility for this tragedy."

Yesterday, Richard Morgan, the Swansea Coroner, recorded a verdict of suicide on Miss Collins, saying that her death was tragic.

Bonfire Night proves a damp squib as firework sales dive

Industry blames growing popularity of Hallowe'en and ban on sales to under-18s, says **Damian Whitworth**

BONFIRE night did not go with quite the same bang as usual yesterday. Sales of fireworks have plummeted since the introduction of a ban on selling to under-18s, and the increasing popularity of Hallowe'en celebrations.

In some cases manufacturers and importers of fireworks calculated that they had sold about 30 per cent fewer rockets and bangers than last year. "For every £100 spent last year, only £68 has been spent on our fireworks this year," said Howard Garman, of Celebration Fireworks, a large importer and supplier to major displays and shops.

Mr Garman blamed the new regulations, which make it an offence to sell fireworks to under-18s; previously the law applied only to under-16s. He said that the loss of the custom of 16 and 17-year-olds was not in itself devastating, but they often reminded other people to buy. "Moving the age limit was a reasonable safety-conscious move which stopped the 14, 15 and 16-year-old hooligans from letting off fireworks in the streets. But most people sit in front of their televisions and the only thing that reminds them that Bonfire Night is coming is the hooligans letting off bangers. We wondered why people weren't buying and surveyed people in the street. They were all saying 'Oh, is it Bonfire Night? Soon?' "

Mr Garman said that his company, based in Manchester, had increased the number of public displays it supplied, but only because of a major marketing campaign. Safety campaigning had, for some years, encouraged more people to go to displays rather than hold parties in their gardens. But now they were worried about safety at displays and were staying away.

Ron Rapley, research and development director of Standard Fireworks, said figures were not yet available, but that sales had been disappointing. "There have been fewer fireworks let off in the area round me and that does remind people."

It has also been suggested that the enormous growth in American-style celebrations of Hallowe'en has eclipsed Guy Fawkes' Night. "In my young day we didn't even have Hallowe'en," said Mr Rapley.

Hamleys in Regent Street reported that it had sold more ghoulish masks, costumes and other monstrous paraphernalia this year than in any other. "Over the past two or three years the interest in dressing up for Hallowe'en has increased dramatically," a spokeswoman said.

The Queen Mother, on the left, planting the Royal Oak in Glasgow in 1932, and all that is left of it today

Builders cut down royal tree

By Philip Delves Broughton

WHAT it had taken 64 years to grow, it took just minutes for a gang of builders with chainsaws to fell.

The Royal Oak outside Mearnskirk Hospital, Glasgow, planted by the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in 1932, was felled by builders last year. Yesterday, the company responsible was fined £25,000.

A few days ago in Swaziland, the Prince of Wales planted a sapling with the words "Good luck, tree". There was no such luck for the tree planted by the Queen Mother, then Duchess of York, when she came to open the hospital in the Newton Mearns area of Glasgow.

Ambion Homes, who were building a private estate near the tree at the time of the felling, admitted responsibility at Paisley Sheriff Court yesterday and blamed a breakdown in communications between them and local authority planners.

Sheriff Bill Dunlop called the felling of the tree "a blunder of major proportions". Under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act he was required to exact a penalty commensurate with the value of the tree. He said: "It is quite impossible to put a value on a tree of such age, maturity and which had such a value to the community. This tree, by its very nature, is really invaluable. I can only have a guess at it and impose a fine of £25,000."

In a recent report, Scottish Woodlands had called Glasgow's Royal Oak "obviously special" and advised its keepers to "prune and retain".

Ambion Homes said they had become confused because there were trees on both sides of the street and when they cut down the Royal Oak to lay a duct, they thought they had a mandate from the local authority.

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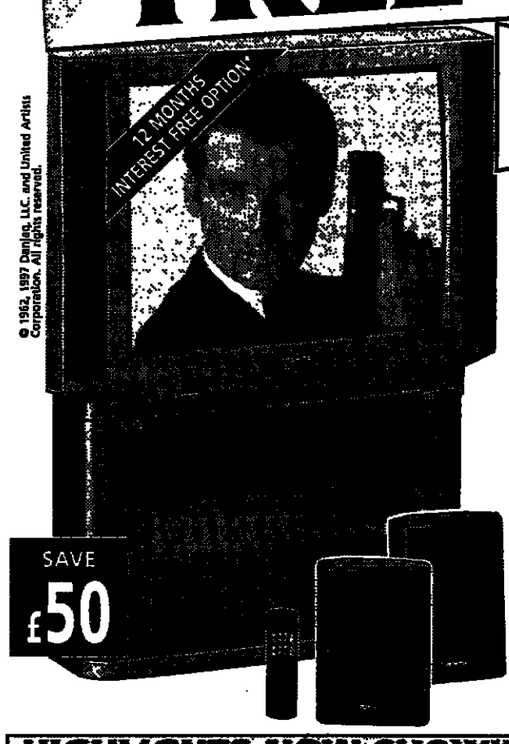

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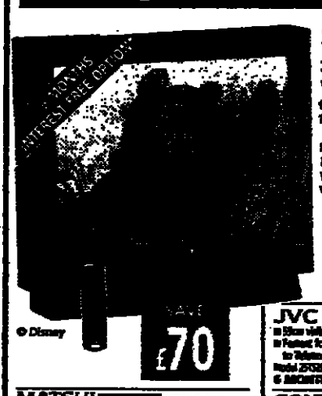

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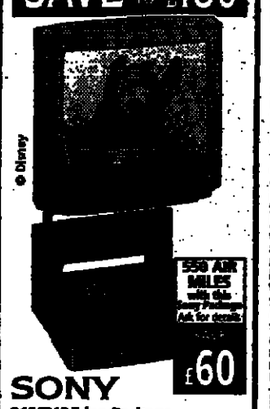

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MATSUI 28" NICAM Stereo TV 66cm visible screen size. PLUS NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model 28M1/V605. Total Separate Selling Price £599.98. In-store Price £579 £50 VOUCHER PRICE £549 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*

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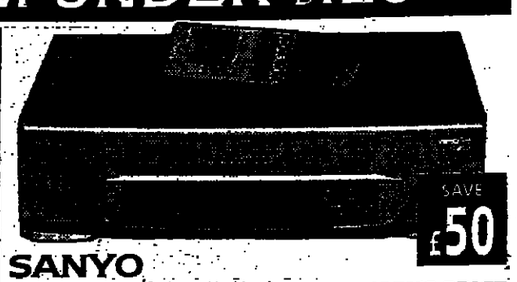

MATSUI Video with Remote Control One month, 5 event timer. Model VX1105. Was £139.99. Long Play CURRYS PRICE £20 £119.99

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Model NVHD6208. Was £379.99. 9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION* £30 CURRYS PRICE £349.99

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SONY Long Play Video with VideoPlus
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Model SLVE220. Was £229.99. 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION* £10 CURRYS PRICE £229.99

TOSHIBA Long Play Video with VideoPlus and PDC
- On-screen display.
- Index search.

Model V228. Was £239.99. 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION* £10 CURRYS PRICE £229.99

JVC 4-Head NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Auto set-up. Model MXU835. Was £349.99. Was £329.99. 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION* £50 CURRYS PRICE £299.99

MITSUBISHI 4-Head NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Auto set-up for easy installation. Model HS751. Was £359.99. 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION* £60 CURRYS PRICE £299.99

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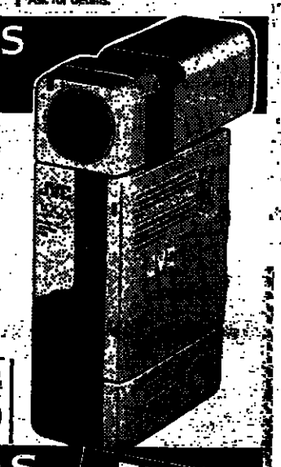

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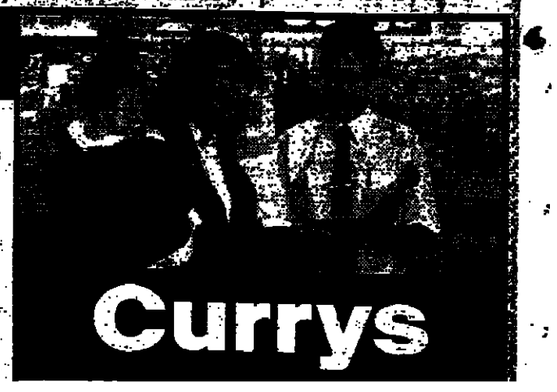


Lawyer tells of his faith in Louise

Barry Scheck comes down to earth and talks to **Tunku Varadarajan**, right, about his feelings on the Woodward case and his belief that the charge against her will be reduced

WENDY MAEDA/REUTERS

Barry Scheck in action in court. He said: "Louise is a very strong girl, a highly intelligent girl. She believes she's innocent, and so do we"

LOUISE WOODWARD was "absolutely, completely adamant" that she would accept *only an "all or nothing"* charge of murder, according to her high-flying defence attorney. Barry Scheck, clearly tired as he came to down to earth after a shuttle flight from Boston, added: "That was *Louise's decision*. Nothing was going to budge her.

"There was no question of her accepting any manslaughter offer, because she believes she's innocent. And so do we."

The lawyer is normally elusive, but I had been on the same flight as him. In the hallway and the taxi queue at New York's La Guardia Airport, he answered questions on the controversial case. I asked: "Given the jury's verdict, and Miss Woodward's conviction for murder, do you now rue your decision to refuse the prosecution's offer of manslaughter?"

He said: "Not at all. I don't rue that. None of us does. In any case, we couldn't have done that because Louise was absolutely, completely adamant that we shouldn't. We didn't want to accept manslaughter anyway. Louise is a very strong girl, a highly intelligent girl. You saw her on the witness stand. She's a special girl. Don't you think?"

Mr Scheck added: "Why did they come to that decision, those jurors? The judge, he's *got to reduce it manslaughter*. I mean, he's a smart guy, a very decent, intelligent guy.

"He has no choice but to reduce the charges, has he? You saw the way he was asking all those questions at *the hearing of motions* by the defence and prosecution on Tuesday. He was asking for definitions of manslaughter, definitions of assault and battery. I think his mind is working towards a reduction in the charges."

Asked whether Judge Hiller B. Zobel might be thinking of reducing the charge to assault and battery, Mr Scheck said: "No, no. That won't happen. He's thinking of manslaughter, thinking very clearly." The matter would not die in Judge Zobel's court if judgment *favoured the prosecution*, he said: "We'll appeal. Of course we'll appeal. What do you think? We're not giving up on this one. But let's not think of that yet. The judge, he'll have something to say."

He perked up when he heard of the interest and support for the case in Britain. "So it's big there, is it? How big?" he asked. I replied: "The biggest thing since Princess Diana."

He said: "You guys, the press, should do something about this. This is a terrible *situation. Look at what the* alternate jurors said. That really was a bad deal for us. One of those guys was an LL M, you know, and there was no way he would have voted to convict Louise."

By this time, our turn came for a taxi. I entered one, to my home in Manhattan. He hauled himself into another, to his apartment in Brooklyn. As we parted, he held his hand out and smiled a forlorn smile. I said: "Nice talking to you, Mr Scheck." He replied: "Let's pray that she's out soon."

☐ *In Kansas City*, a young father who admitted the second-degree murder of his baby son had his 20-year sentence reduced to probation. Eric Coffey, 21, shook the boy to death trying to stop him crying. Judge Jock Gant *said*: "I believe he did not mean to harm the infant. Each case is different.

"I honestly believe Coffey did not mean to harm the infant ... His wife testified that the baby had kept them up all night crying."

Eappens in TV attack on their British critics

By James Bone

THE mother of the dead baby in the Louise Woodward case accused Britons yesterday of vilifying her and said it was shocking that a young British woman could harm her child.

Asked about British criticism of her, Deborah Eappen said in an interview to be broadcast on CNN last night: "They want to make someone a villain, other than the person responsible for murdering a baby. The idea that — I hate to use a stereotype — a young, white, soft-spoken, British-accented, intelligent girl could harm your child is terrifying to people."

Her husband, Sunil, used the couple's appearance on the talk show *Larry King Live* to hit back at those who have blamed *his wife for* leaving their eight-month-old son Matthew in the care of a teenage au pair.

"I think it is ludicrous," he said. "To me, it's like blaming the rape victim for being raped. We should be able to expect that someone is not going to kill your child.

"It doesn't matter that Debbie was working part-time," he added. "It doesn't matter that Debbie came home at every opportunity to breast-feed Matthew. It is ludicrous to tie in our work hours, somehow connecting the death of our child."

The Eappens have made several television appearances in recent days to defend *their way of life* as a working couple, as public opinion has shifted against them. Mr Eappen is an anaesthetist and his wife an ophthalmologist, who says she works three days a week.

"*It seems to me that people* have a really hard time of looking at it when a kid is involved," Mr Eappen said. "You put two people in a room, a husband and wife, and the wife comes out battered and she dies, and the husband comes out and he says, 'I don't know what happened. I didn't do anything' — no one would have trouble believing it was murder. But when you put a kid in there, a defenceless kid, all of a sudden it's a little fuzzy. It does not make sense."

Mr Eappen also criticised Woodward for not visiting Matthew during the five days he was on life-support.

Sunil Eappen on CNN's *Larry King Live*

Internet site crashes as thousands log on

From James Bone in Cambridge, Massachusetts

A *PREVIOUSLY* obscure World Wide Web page serving lawyers in Massachusetts has been swamped by tens of thousands of inquiries since Judge Hiller B. Zobel announced that he would post his decision there.

The Web site for the *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* crashed at 3.30am local time yesterday, when thousands of Britons woke up and logged on. "I am having difficulty getting on myself," said Paul Martinek, the publisher.

Judge Zobel decided to release *his decision on the* Internet after a conversation with his son, David, a graduate of the California Institute of Technology. He chose the *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* because it is read by 30,000 of the state's 36,000 lawyers and almost all its judges. The Middlesex County Superior Court routinely transmits judgments electronically to the newspaper, but they have always been sent several days after their release by the court clerk. This is the first time a court *decision has* been handed down on the Internet. Judge Zobel evidently hoped that electronic publication would relieve the overworked court clerk, who requires each of the hundreds of reporters to pay $1.50 a page to photocopy decisions on a single copying machine.

In response to complaints, Judge Zobel agreed to release his ruling directly to news organisations on condition that they post it also on their Internet sites. That compounded the problem for *Lawyers Weekly*, because each of those sites added a link funnelling more traffic to its Internet address. Woodward's supporters have also established Internet sites on both sides of the Atlantic.

Judgments went on the Internet for the first time in *English courts* earlier this year. So far only four judgments have been put on the Internet, all in civil cases. The most recent was the ruling in the McDonald's libel action. The others were Court of Appeal cases.

☐ The address for the *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* newspaper is: www.lawyersweekly.com

In Britain, the address for the Louise Woodward Campaign for Justice is: *homepages*.force9.net/louise

The Friends of Louise Woodward in America: www.masscomm.net/nanny

Thrust parts on sale in drive to cut debts

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Editor

EVERY spare part, from engines to wheel nuts, that helped the Thrust jet car to break the sound barrier is up for sale as Britain's world land speed record *team battles to clear huge* debts.

Richard Noble, the leader of the record attempt, has ordered that equipment ranging from one of the flight suits worn *by pilot Flight Lieutenant* Andy Green to individual wheel nuts that could sell for as little as £5, must be auctioned on November 29. There are also eight spare Rolls-Royce Spey *jet engines*, like the two taken from RAF Phantom fighters used by Thrust, though four are thought to be scrap.

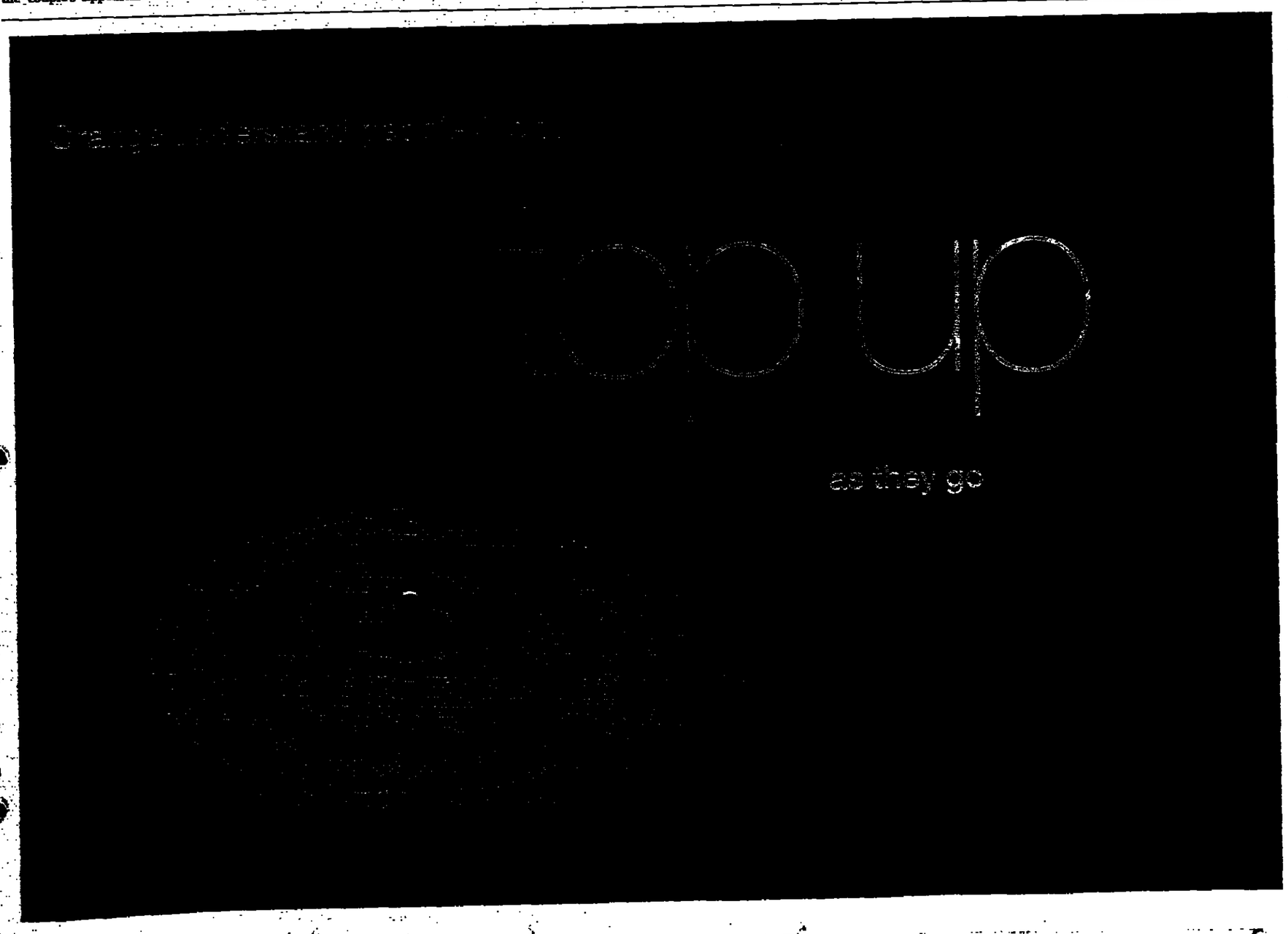
A plastic nose cone will be billed as a star of the sale, *but* less glamorous items include documents, bearings, bolts, fire extinguishers, tools and old body panels as well as the aluminium wheels, designed to cope with the *stress of carrying the* seven-tonne car through the sound barrier.

All the equipment will come with a certificate guaranteeing the items as genuine spares and components. *Experts from* Brooks, the London auction house, will be valuing the 1,000 items for the sale.

The car will, however, remain complete and could be sold to a museum. British enthusiasts will get their first chance *to see it at the Lord* Mayor's Show in London on Saturday.

Mr Noble decided to hold the sale after he failed to find enough sponsors to cover the costs of *running the team in* America. More than 30 people were needed at an estimated cost of more than £20,000 a day as the car built up to its record speed of 763mph across the Nevada desert.

A week after the huge, jet-propelled car returned to Britain, the team has debts described as "substantial" though the exact figure is secret. Mr Noble was not available for comment yesterday but it is thought he had to raise £175,000 just to get the car, team members and spares and equipment to Nevada.



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Defrock rector for sake of his soul, says court

By Russell Jenkins

AN ADULTEROUS rector should be defrocked for the sake of his soul and the souls of others whom he may put at risk in the future, an ecclesiastical court recommended yesterday. The Rev Clifford Williams was described as a cold and unrepentant liar who had betrayed the clergy.

The uncompromising statement from a panel of judges at Caernarfon, North Wales, goes to the Bishop of Bangor for a decision. Mr Williams, 49, rector of Benllech, Anglesey, still denies having a six-year affair with a married parishioner, Iris Green, 56.

The panel said it was inconceivable that he could remain a priest in Holy Orders within the Church in Wales. The father of three had shown no sign of regret or remorse to mitigate the offence of "leading a double life". Judge Michael Evans, QC, president of the panel, said in the written statement that Mr Williams, who lied repeatedly to his bishop, had shown a consistent incapacity to exercise his priestly role and had betrayed the clergy by his actions. There was particular distaste, he said, for the way Mr Williams sought to blacken the name of Mrs Green, using personal diaries and letters in open court.

"We feel there would be a real element of danger — to his soul and to the souls of others, both those with whom he has already had pastoral contact and those to whom he might present himself as a clergyman in the future — if he were to remain in Holy Orders," the panel concluded.

The bishop, The Right Reverend Barry Morgan, is expected to announce his decision next week on the rector's licence and permission to officiate. Mr Williams, who lives in the rectory overlooking Red Wharf Bay, was with friends yesterday and unavailable for comment. His solicitor suggested that he would appeal to a higher ecclesiastical court within the Church and, if that failed, take his case to the High Court and upwards to the European Court of Human Rights.

Williams: panel said he was an unrepentant liar

The Provincial Court, which sat last month for the first time since 1938, had said that Mr Williams gave cause for scandal and offence by conducting an adulterous affair. It also found that he had lied to the bishop, and that he had disobeyed his bishop's order to stop taking services at St Andrew's Church. Mrs Green, a music teacher, said that he seduced her on a sofa when she was still vulnerable from the death of her teenage son in a motorcycle accident. As the relationship soured, she claimed he began stalking her and plaguing her with telephone calls.

The panel concluded: "We find Mr Williams used his powerful personality to overbear Mrs Green. Our concern is that, when she tried to get away from him later, he would not let her go."

The panel was surprised that Mr Williams showed no sign of emotion during the hearing. Watched closely as he gave evidence, "we were struck by his cold reaction to a highly emotional scene". The pain of Mr William's "betrayal" was plain to see on the faces of women parishioners who gave evidence on his behalf, the panel said.

Mrs Green made it clear through friends that she was delighted with the judgment, but has said that she is still deeply troubled emotionally by the "nightmare" she endured from her priest.

ROSS PARRY

Lance Corporal Tom Byrne, with the bullet that was lodged in his scalp for three weeks after an ambush

Soldier survived shot in head

Bullet was lodged under skin for three years, writes **Daniel McGrory**

FOR three weeks after he was shot in Bosnia, Lance Corporal Tom Byrne walked around with a bullet lodged in his head. Medics told him it was just the result of a blow from a gun stock, while doctors gave him an aspirin and sent him back to filling sandbags. Finally the soldier persuaded surgeons to take a look at the injury. Lodged between the skull and the skin they found a slug from a Kalashnikov rifle.

"I kept insisting that I had been shot in the head during the middle of a gun battle, but all I got for my trouble was a bandage," said Mr Byrne, 29, now a social worker in Hollingworth, Manchester. The lance corporal, the first British soldier to return fire as part of the peacekeeping operation in 1993, was shot when he and two colleagues were ambushed by a gunman in a car in Travnik, near the British base of Vitez. "During the firefight, I felt my head fly back," he said. "But the adrenalin was pumping through me like electricity and I carried on firing."

He is sure the bullet ricocheted off the ground in front of him, ripping the brass jacket off, with the lead slug hitting him in the head. The lance corporal from the Royal Logistic Corps, who has now persuaded the Tatton MP, Martin Bell, to write the foreword for his yet-unpublished biography about the the first British peacekeepers, was later Mentioned in Dispatches for his bravery.

"I think these Croatian soldiers who shot me were drunk and had gone out terrorising the local Muslim people," he said. "I realise I am lucky to be alive."

Life on Mir beset by skin disease

By Nick Nuttall

BOILS, tummy upsets and a hacking cough have emerged as some of the more unglamorous side-effects of a stay on Mir. A scientist monitoring the evironment on the Russian space station says the filthy conditions on board should carry a health warning.

"Mir's basic hygiene is very, very poor. The Russians have kept this quiet. But there have been outbreaks of skin disease and also respiratory infection. They have also had illness from food contamination," says Mario Pitzurra, a microbiologist at Perugia University who has been working with the Russians.

Dr Pitzurra's studies, reported in *New Scientist*, show that people working and living in confined, dirty and sweaty conditions such as those on Mir shed much more bacteria than under normal conditions.

Aleksandr Viktorov, head of microbiological safety at Russia's space programme, says that crew members on Mir, which have included the Britons Helen Sharman and Michael Foale, have suffered from boils caused by skin infections.

He says space flight is known to supress the immune system, increasing the threat from microbes floating around a capsule. Astronauts [illegible] towards the end of a long stay in space and in the days after launch, he adds.

Men get a lesson on kerb crawling

By Richard Ford

MEN caught kerb crawling could attend classes aimed at stopping them reoffending. Instead of being cautioned or charged, they would attend eight hours of lessons during which they would meet former prostitutes and be taught about the health risks of their behaviour.

The proposal to introduce a pilot scheme in West Yorkshire comes after a similar scheme in San Francisco which is claimed to reduce reoffending and kerb crawling.

Professor Jalna Hanmer, director of the research centre on violence, abuse and gender relations at Leeds Metropolitan University, said that the one-day course was intended to make men face up to the consequences of their behaviour. The course, which would involve police officers, health officials and academics, would be divided into three sections in which they would be taught the legal consequences of kerb crawling, the health risks involved and the lifestyle of prostitutes.

Former prostitutes would talk directly or via video link to the men about how they became involved in vice, how it has affected their lives and what they think of their customers.

Under the proposal, men would pay to attend the classes. Ms Hanmer believes many would be willing to hand over the money if it meant they would not appear in court and could tackle their behaviour.

Gibe by CNN chief fuels Murdoch feud

By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

TED TURNER, the founder of Cable News Network, yesterday reignited the personal feud with Rupert Murdoch by once again likening the chairman of News Corporation to Hitler.

Mr Turner, in London with his wife, Jane Fonda, was challenged yesterday by William Shawcross, author of an unauthorised biography of Mr Murdoch, whether it was true that he had likened the News Corp chairman to Hitler at a lunch on Monday. "I didn't use that word," said Mr Turner, who added that he had instead likened Mr Murdoch to "the former leader of the Third Reich".

Mr Shawcross asked the American media mogul, who is now a vice-president of Time Warner, whether it was "appropriate for a businessman man like you — who pretends and purports to be working for the benefit of mankind — to compare a competitor to Hitler?" "If the shoe fits, wear it," replied Mr Turner, who was in turn accused of a "stupid and cheap shot" by Mr Shawcross.

The confrontation took place during a question-and-answer session after a lunch in the library of the Reform Club attended by such media luminaries as Sir Christopher Bland, Chairman of the BBC, and Lord Deedes, the former editor of *The Daily Telegraph*.

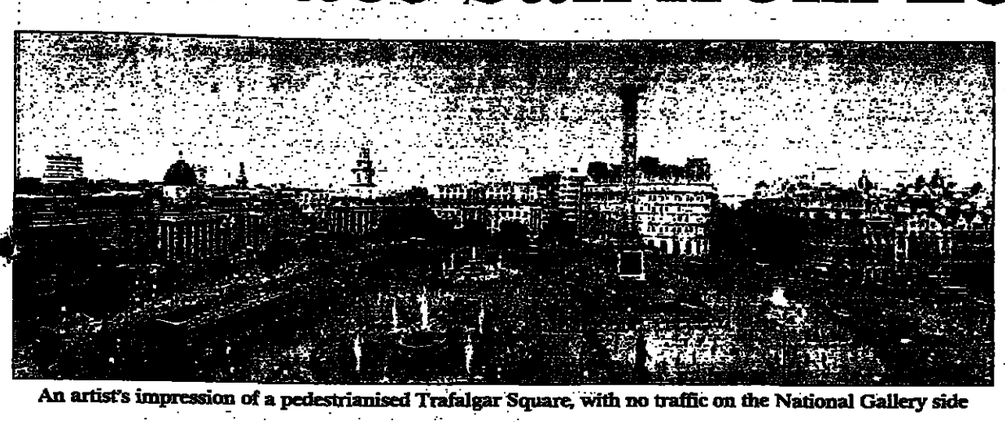
The dispute between Mr Murdoch and Mr Turner blew up last year over access for News Corp's Fox News channel to cable systems. During the dispute the *New York Post* — which, like *The Times*, is part of News Corp — questioned Mr Turner's sanity in its columns.

Mr Turner's outburst surprised media analysts because the cause of the original bitterness has been removed. In July, News Corp and Time Warner reached agreement on Fox News and the channel became available on Time Warner's New York cable networks last month.

Last year Mr Turner apologised to Jewish leaders in New York for comparing Mr Murdoch to Hitler. Jewish leaders in both Jerusalem and New York had expressed their outrage at Mr Turner's remarks.

In London yesterday Mr Turner accused Mr Murdoch of "coming close to having this country [Britain] under his thumb" and added that "his [Mr Murdoch's] idea of a better world is a better world for Murdoch".

Cars face ban from London landmarks



An artist's impression of a pedestrianised Trafalgar Square, with no traffic on the National Gallery side

Moves to pedestrianise streets are designed to free historic squares from traffic congestion and reduce pollution, writes Mark Henderson

PUBLIC access to London's most famous landmarks will be transformed under plans to ban cars from much of Trafalgar Square, Parliament Square and Whitehall announced yesterday.

The World Squares for All project, masterminded by the architect Sir Norman Foster, will create pedestrian areas linking the National Gallery with Trafalgar Square, and Westminster Abbey with Parliament Square.

A more radical proposal would also see St Margaret's Street outside the Palace of Westminster and the east and west sides of Trafalgar Square closed to through traffic.

Sir Norman said the project, launched by the Government and Westminster council, would transform London. "The postcard image of London is very different on the ground," he said. "Pedestrians are treated like cattle and there is an appalling standard of urban design. These plans will reinvigorate London's great squares, which are essentially dead at present."

Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, said the scheme would free some of London's greatest historical sites from a tyranny of traffic. "Despite their magnificent architecture, Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and Parliament Square are dominated by traffic, dust and pollution," he said.

The plans will cost £20 million to £40 million and are expected to receive a substantial grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Londoners and interest groups will be asked for their opinions on the two strategies over the next few months. An exhibition of the plans opens today in Whitehall.

Final proposals will be made when the consultation process ends next spring, and Westminster council hopes to implement many of the measures before 2000.

Sir Norman said he wanted to follow successful continental models. "We are looking at places like Place Vendôme in Paris, where they have kept the traffic but used paved streets with no kerbs to create an attractive public space," he said.

Foster: hopes plans will transform city squares

Under the first strategy, the north side of Trafalgar Square (the National Gallery side) would close to all traffic, with northbound traffic on the east side and southbound on the west. The centre of the square would be extended towards Whitehall, and the traffic island around the statue of Charles I, the most popular spot for tourists viewing Big Ben and The Mall, would be enlarged and linked to the square with an improved pedestrian crossing. St Martin's Place would be narrowed to create a new public space and Horse Guards Road would become a cycle route. Whitehall's pavements would be widened, leaving a bus lane and a single lane for general traffic.

Parliament Square would close to all traffic on the south side, with pedestrian crossings opening access to the new public space created. Car parking would be banned in Broad Sanctuary and Old Palace Yard.

The more radical strategy would ban general traffic from the east and west sides of Trafalgar Square, St Martin's Place, Horse Guards Avenue and St Margaret's Street. The Charles I island would become part of an extended Trafalgar Square, and Duncannon Street would be pedestrianised.

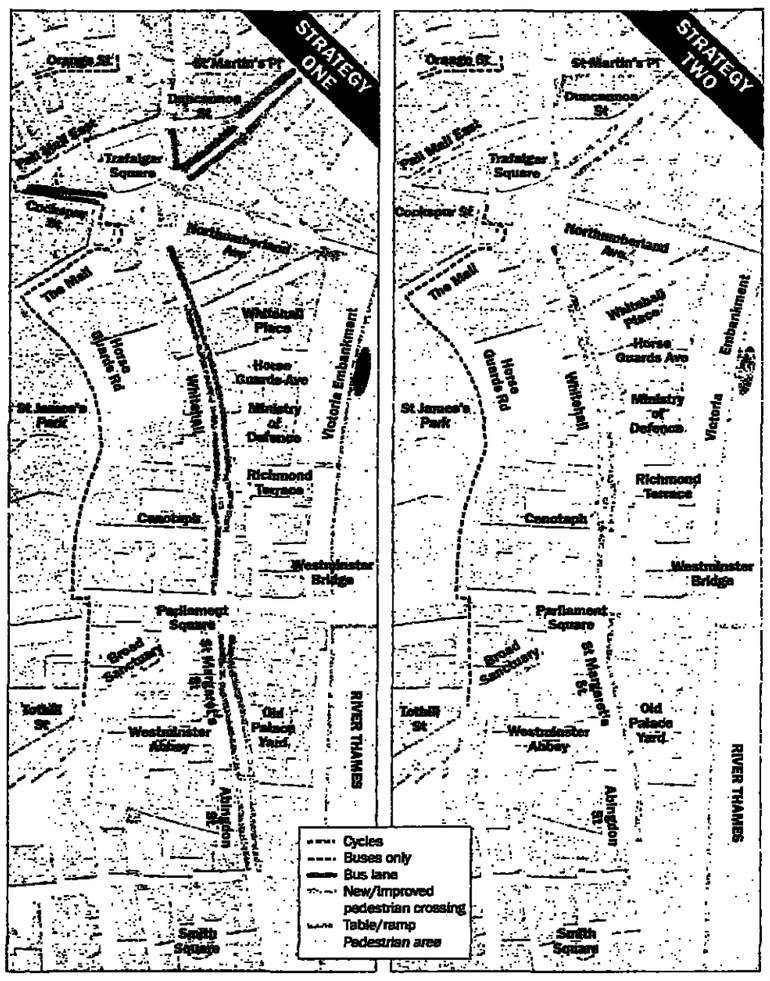
Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, welcomed the proposals. "For far too long our cities, towns and villages have been destroyed by planners as a result of their excessive deference to the motor car," he said. "If London is to remain a world city, it is time that some consideration was given to the people who live and work in its historic heart as well as the millions who visit it."

Motoring groups, though, said they were concerned. Laura Goodes, of the AA, said: "If this is going to work we will have to address the wider question of public transport in London, which makes people drive their cars into town."

Bob Oddy, general secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, said the plans were an absolute nonsense. "Pedestrianisation will make no difference unless London's whole traffic problem is solved, probably with road pricing."

Sir Norman said that at worst the project would increase congestion by 5 per cent elsewhere in London. Journey times would not be increased by the first strategy, and would rise by 7 per cent under the more radical one.

The exhibition is at the Royal United Services Institute, Whitehall, until Saturday, 8am to 8pm. From November 10-22 it will be at the Westminster Archives Centre, 10 St Ann's Street, 9.30am-7pm Monday to Friday, 9.30am-5pm Saturday.



Plan bears the hallmark of Foster's clear thinking

■ Pedestrianisation can often leave city centres dead at night, but yesterday's proposals would seem to offer London the best of both worlds, writes Marcus Binney

SIR NORMAN FOSTER has once again demonstrated the crisp, clear thinking for which his practice is renowned. For years Trafalgar Square has been a battleground, as cars, taxis, lorries and buses fight to cross each other's path.

His proposals follow on from the scheme implemented in front of Buckingham Palace, which has successfully transformed a dangerous roundabout into a simple T-junction where traffic usually flows freely.

Just as pedestrians can now walk unimpeded between Buckingham Palace and the Queen Victoria Memorial, so visitors will be able to leave the National Gallery and walk down to Nelson's Column and the surrounding fountains without having to dodge the traffic.

The gyratory systems introduced at Trafalgar Square and Hyde Park Corner were intended to speed up traffic, but the sheer number of vehicles led to the introduction of traffic lights, which slow it down. By restoring two-way traffic to the south side of Trafalgar Square (an idea first proposed by his rival Lord Rogers), Sir Norman may ease traffic flows.

The same principles of introducing two-way traffic, applied to Parliament Square, could also ease the present heavy congestion at the entry points, as well as linking the grounds of Westminster Abbey to the central square. No less welcome are proposals further to reduce car parking and create new pedestrian routes through Whitehall's finest buildings.

The most controversial element is the suggested removal of the unsightly clutter of cars in front of the House of Lords in Old Palace Yard, forcing peers to make use of the underground car park across the road (which could be linked to the House of Lords by a tunnel).

A second major proposal is to open a pedestrian route through the magnificent circular courtyard of the Edwardian Treasury building, closed for security reasons about 15 years ago, on through the courtyard of the Foreign Office, across Downing Street, and into Horse Guards Parade. This proposal follows on from Tony Blair's known desire to create public access to Downing Street. As vehicles are not involved, the Security Services may not object.

Most ambitious of all is the suggestion that the large, little-used area of tarmac in Horse Guards Avenue, next to the Banqueting House, should be planted with lines of trees to form the final link in a garden route running all the way from Kensington Palace to the Thames.

The greatest challenge facing Sir Norman is to introduce changes more simply and swiftly than those seen recently in the Strand, where the creation of a central reservation disrupted traffic for more than a year. Many continental cities have set out to create large pedestrian zones in their centres, but these areas can be dead at night. This would be unfortunate in London, because Trafalgar Square forms a key route to the West End. By easing traffic rather than removing it and enlarging the realm of the pedestrian, Sir Norman may just achieve the best of both worlds.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ecstasy 'damages the brain signals'

American scientists claim to have found the first direct evidence that Ecstasy may produce long-term changes in the brain. Scans of 14 users showed signs of damage to nerve junctions, with a reduced number carrying the signalling chemical serotonin, which is linked to changes in mood. In contrast, people who had used cocaine, heroin and marijuana had normal levels, according to the research from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore reported in *New Scientist*.

Murder retrial

A retrial has been ordered by Bristol Crown Court in the case of a British businessman accused of murdering his lover on a trip to India. Mohan Kular, 46, is already serving a life sentence for the murder of his wife, Ninderjit.

Windsor sale

Items from the Duke of Windsor's former mansion in Paris — owned by Mohamed Al Fayed — will be held at Sotheby's in New York in February, in aid of the Dodi Fayed International Charitable Foundation.

Aids fear for boy

A boy aged four has had an Aids test after being stabbed with a drug addict's used hypodermic needle in a school playground. Joshua Gould, of Derby, was stabbed by another pupil, aged eight, who had found the syringe.

North Sea death

A man has been killed in an accident on a North Sea oil platform. John Alexander Cowie, 37, from Montrose, died when heavy machinery fell on him while he was working on Shell UK's Tern Alpha platform off Shetland.

Swan down

Saturday, a Bewick swan who has never found a mate, arrived for her 19th successive winter at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust HQ in Slimbridge, Gloucestershire. She was among the first to touch down from Siberia.

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Mutant mice give clues to ageing

By Nigel Hawkes

JAPANESE scientists have created a mouse that suffers all the ills that flesh is heir to and may help to unravel the mysteries of human ageing.

A short lifespan, infertility, blocked arteries, deteriorating skin, brittle bones and emphysema are the unhappy inheritance of the mice, and all result from a single gene mutation. The team led by Makoto Kuro-o, of the National Institute of Neuroscience in Tokyo, has named the gene *klotho*, after the figure in Greek mythology who spins the thread of life.

The gene makes a protein found on the surface of cells, and is believed to be part of a signalling pathway that may be involved in the control of ageing. Mice without the gene cannot make the protein, and suffer from symptoms similar to those of human ageing, but greatly accelerated, the team writes in *Nature*.

The team showed that the gene was indeed responsible by reinserting it into the mice, which returned to normal.

However, in a commentary in the same issue of *Nature*, George Martin, of the University of Washington in Seattle, and Saira Mian, of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California, question whether the mice really suffer the same diseases as ageing humans. Decreased bone mass in the mice, they say, is not quite the same as osteoporosis in human beings, nor is it clear that the mice ever become fully mature before going into decline.

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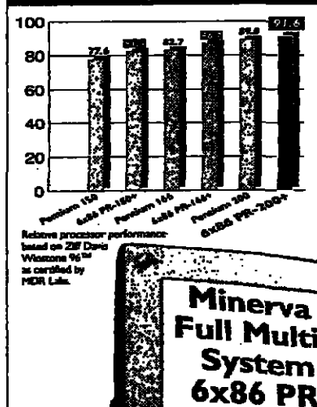

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Prince's cold war with press thaws in African sun

Alan Hamilton and colleagues covering the tour have basked in unwonted royal favour

THE Prince of Wales flew home at the end of his eight-day visit to southern Africa last night, clearly relieved that it had been an unqualified success, but still somewhat mystified as to why he had had such an uncharacteristically good press.

Speaking informally to reporters on his aircraft on the last leg of his tour yesterday, a relaxed Prince said that he had only done what he always did on foreign visits, which was to promote Britain. "I did my best", he said.

He thanked journalists for not shouting questions at him during public engagements, a practice he hates as he is not a politician. He even inquired after the press corps' health, trusting that they had not picked up any nasty ailments while dogging his footsteps through three countries.

The Prince had been more willing to accommodate the needs of the press than at any time during the past decade. He held three informal meetings with journalists, and although they were largely restricted to polite social exchanges and a few jokes, they were appreciated because only the most seasoned veterans of royal tours could remember when he last did such a thing.

He was also unusually willing to look at the cameras during engagements and to perform harmless stunts, such as playing an African drum during a visit to Langa township near Cape Town, and laughing and joking with the Spice Girls on the lawns of the government guest house in Pretoria.

But for the Prince, the highlights of his visit were another chance to meet President Mandela, whom he admires hugely, and his private visit with Prince Harry to Rorke's Drift, which he admitted had reduced him to tears. The Prince is Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Regiment of Wales, whose forerunner, the 24th Regiment of Foot, fought the engagement in 1879 when 150 British soldiers defended themselves against 4,000 Zulus and won 11 VCs.

In a conversation with journalists the Prince said he had gone to Rorke's Drift to pay homage to the wasted lives of both sides. He had found the memorials and the landscape extremely moving.

The Prince asked, a little disingenuously, if the press had got there. They had not, as it was a private day, and reporters and cameramen observed strictly the request that there should be no pursuit of Prince Harry except when he accompanied his father to a Spice Girls concert and to a Zulu village north of Durban.

Few people come away from an encounter with Mr Mandela anything other than deeply impressed. The Prince, who met him recently at the Commonwealth summit in Edinburgh, is no exception. He admires the President's ability to forgive after 27 years in the cells of the apartheid regime, and sees a parallel with his former mentor, Laurens van der Post, who was cruelly treated during three years as a Japanese prisoner of war. Imprisonment, the Prince feels, does something to a man that can bring out great good.

For his first official visit since the death of his former wife, the Prince could hardly have chosen a better destination than South Africa, where he is well known and generally well liked, and where he was virtually guaranteed a warm welcome and even, on occasion, crowds of respectable size. He made much throughout his visit of the longstanding ties with Britain, from the arrival of the first Methodist missionaries in 1844 to Britain's status today as South Africa's largest trading partner.

During his conversation with journalists, he said he was happy to help promote the country in any way he could. He even took a tolerant and kindly view of Britain's most recent export, the Spice Girls, whom he regarded as "rather special and rather splendid".

He made a particularly good impression when, at a banquet hosted by Mr Mandela, he went further than he has before in acknowledging the charity work done by his former wife. Many South Africans wrote to him at the time of her death, and at the end of his speech he received a standing ovation from the guests, including Earl Spencer, the late Princess's brother.

Three informal meetings with journalists, at which no cameras were allowed, hardly warrant the "charm offensive" label that some newspapers have attached to the Prince's recent demeanour. But he does give the impression that a cloud has lifted, and that his cold war with the media has thawed — at least for the time being.

MARK MITCHELL/REUTERS

Prince Edward, on a three-day visit to New Zealand, exchanging a *hongi* greeting with Wiremu Karamaina, 16, in Wanganui yesterday. The trip included a visit to Wanganui Collegiate, where the Prince was a pupil

Ministry admits trawlers spied on Soviets

By Michael Hornsby

THE Ministry of Defence has admitted publicly for the first time that British trawler skippers were recruited to spy on Soviet naval activities during the Cold War.

Officials were speaking in response to a television documentary to be screened tonight about the disappearance 23 years ago of the Hull-based trawler the *Gaul* with the loss of all the 36 crew.

Dispatches on Channel 4 will broadcast film taken by a remotely-controlled camera of the vessel lying on the seabed some 60 miles off the north coast of Norway.

Former trawler skippers tell the programme that they spied on Soviet fleet movements out of Murmansk at the request of the Government and were given cameras for the task by a man calling himself Commander Brookes.

Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank, then the Labour Government's Minister of Defence, asserted in a letter to a Hull MP at the time of the disaster that "the British trawler fleet is not involved in any way in intelligence gathering".

Lord Rodgers admits to the programme that this statement was "palpably on the evidence not true" and that he now believes he was "seriously misled" by his officials.

The recipient of Lord Rodgers's letter was John Prescott, MP for Hull East since 1970, now also the Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Secretary. He is being pressed by relatives of the *Gaul*'s crew to reopen the inquiry into its fate.

Mr Prescott declined to be interviewed by *Dispatches*, but a spokesman said yesterday that he would "welcome and consider any new evidence the programme can provide".

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday: "In the years prior to 1974 a very limited number of vessels assisted the Government in specific intelligence gathering." However, officials insisted that the *Gaul* was not among these.

The official inquiry into the disappearance of the *Gaul* concluded that the boat capsized after being struck by huge waves.

The makers of the *Dispatches* programme reject the official view but concede that their film does not explain the sinking. However, it speculates that the vessel may have been involved in laying or recovering a military communications cable for monitoring Soviet submarine movements.

Chefs told to bone up about food allergies

By Ian Murray

WAITERS and chefs should know exactly what ingredients are in the meals they serve, according to a food safety campaign launched by the Government yesterday. The idea is that they will be able to warn diners if the recipe contains something that could cause an allergic reaction.

Jeff Rooker, the Food Safety Minister, said that even tiny amounts of nuts, shellfish and some seeds in food could affect people with allergies and could even prove fatal. Recent research suggested that one in 200 people suffered from food allergies, he said.

"Fobbing customers off with the wrong answer could make them seriously ill, or even kill. If you don't know, don't guess. Find out," he told a food intolerance conference in London. Posters and leaflets are being sent to more than 150,000 restaurants, cafés and pubs as part of the campaign.

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Blair condemns suspension of poppy wearers

By Nicholas Watt and Audrey Magee

PEOPLE should not be penalised for wearing British Legion remembrance poppies, the Prime Minister said yesterday as he rebuked a factory in Northern Ireland that has suspended 20 workers without pay for wearing them.

Tony Blair's intervention in the Commons came as Mary McAleese, the Irish President-elect, said that she would not wear a poppy at her inauguration, which takes place next week on Armistice Day.

Dr McAleese, a Northern Irish Roman Catholic who has repeatedly claimed that she can help to unite nationalists and Unionists, decided that it would be inappropriate for the Irish President to wear a poppy. She said: "I have given the matter deepest consideration but I decided after long deliberation that, apart from the shamrock, the President should not wear emblems or symbols of any kind."

As Unionists criticised her, a Downing Street source said that Dr McAleese's decision was a matter for her.

However, at Prime Minister's Questions Mr Blair made clear his irritation with the Coats Viyella factory in Londonderry which has suspended the 20 workers, including a Falklands veteran. Asked by David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, about the suspensions, Mr Blair, who was wearing a poppy, said: "Of course I agree that people should not be penalised for wearing poppies. Both traditions and both sides of the community in Northern Ireland want to support what happened in the Second World War and realise what a tremendous contribution was made by people, whatever their religion, in fighting that war and winning it."

The wearing of poppies is a sensitive issue in Northern Ireland because many nationalists, among them moderate members of the SDLP, regard the poppy as a symbol of Unionism and British imperialism. Unionists are perplexed by the opposition to poppies because, they say, thousands of Irish people, from both sides of the border and from both traditions, died in both wars this century serving in the British Army.

The poppy issue has been given added poignancy this year because this weekend marks the tenth anniversary of the massacre in Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, in which 11 people were killed by an IRA bomb while attending the town's Remembrance Sunday service.

Dr McAleese, a Belfast law professor, will be inaugurated on Tuesday as many gather in Dublin to remember the estimated 45,000 Irish soldiers who died fighting alongside the British in the two world wars.

In her statement yesterday Dr McAleese said that she would continue the tradition set by Mary Robinson, her predecessor, and attend Sunday's Royal British Legion Remembrance Day service at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral in Dublin. She said that she believed it was important to find "an all-embracing means of expressing grief and sorrow for what has happened in the past, and, in particular, for expressing our deep respect for those who sacrificed their lives".

Major Hume Grogan, the British Legion's administrator, said that the legion was not disappointed about Dr McAleese's decision not to wear a poppy. "She can build bridges in other ways," he said. "The fact that she is attending the religious service shows that she is willing to try."

Mrs Robinson was the first Irish Head of State to attend the commemoration ceremonies. She went first in 1995; she did not wear a poppy, but her husband did.

MIKE BROWN/REUTERS

McAleese: said it was inappropriate for an Irish President to wear a poppy

Spring quits as Labour leader

By Audrey Magee

DICK SPRING, one of the architects of Northern Ireland's peace process, resigned as leader of the Irish Labour Party yesterday after its disastrous showing in last week's presidential election. Adi Roche, the candidate handpicked by him, received only 7 per cent of the vote to finish fourth out of five.

Mr Spring, 47, told his parliamentary party yesterday, before the tabling of a no-confidence motion in his leadership, that he was resigning "with regret" after 15 years.

Mr Spring led his party to its greatest election success in 1992, when it secured 33 seats in Parliament. He was Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister in two coalition Governments and helped to produce the first IRA ceasefire.

But in the June general election Labour lost half its seats and was forced into opposition. Mr Spring will be replaced by Ruairi Quinn, the deputy leader, until an election is held on November 13.

Officer tells of fatal shooting

Hampered by CS gas and darkness, police marksman fired six shots at IRA suspect, reports Adam Fresco

A POLICE marksman described yesterday how he shot and killed a suspected IRA terrorist at close range as CS gas engulfed him.

The officer was meant to be the first person to storm a room believed to be occupied by several armed terrorists who had talked about shooting officers if confronted, a jury at the Old Bailey was told. The operation to arrest the men in September last year was the culmination of weeks of intelligence-gathering on a five-man unit that was believed to be planning a major bombing campaign in London, the jury was told.

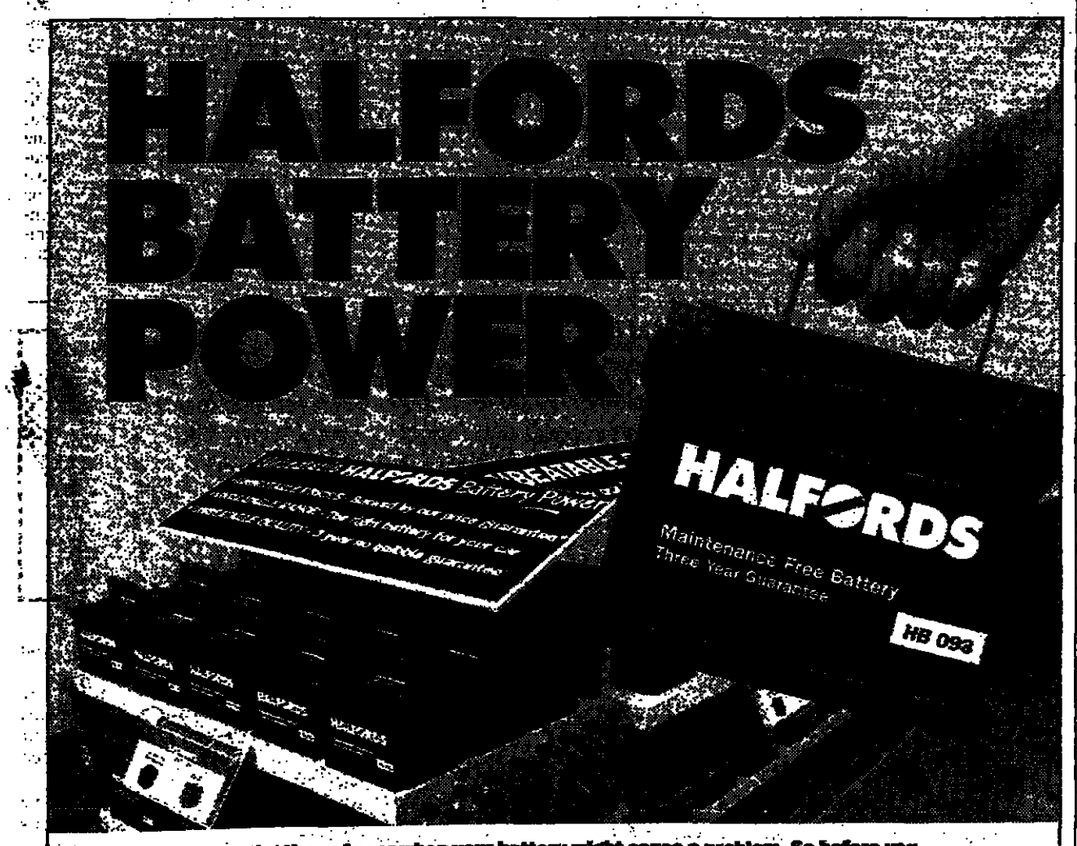
A key failed to open the door of room 303 in the hotel in Hammersmith, West London, then a battering ram made only a hole in the door, the jury was told. The officer said: "I believe there were shouts of 'armed police' from my unit. Two rounds of gas were fired. It caused my eyes to run and I had difficulty breathing.

"I heard officer Mike shout that there was one kneeling down at the back of the room. I heard more shouts of 'armed police'. At this point the door opened very quickly about five inches and I screamed 'Show me your hands.' The room was in darkness. The door shut and opened again about 18in and again I screamed, 'Show me your hands.'

"I could see a figure silhouetted in the doorway now. He had not reacted to anything. His body language was aggressive. I believed I could hear shots coming from inside the room and I fired two shots in his direction. That had no effect, so I fired another two shots, quickly followed by another two shots."

The shot man, Diarmuid O'Neill, 26, was said by the prosecution to be "a vital member" of a Provisional IRA active service unit. Brian McHugh, 31, unemployed, from Birmingham; Patrick Kelly, 31, unemployed; James Murphy, 26, a school groundsman from Chelsea; and Michael Phillips, 22, a British Airways apprentice engineer from Surrey, all deny conspiring to cause explosions with O'Neill and possessing explosives with intent to endanger life.

The trial continues.



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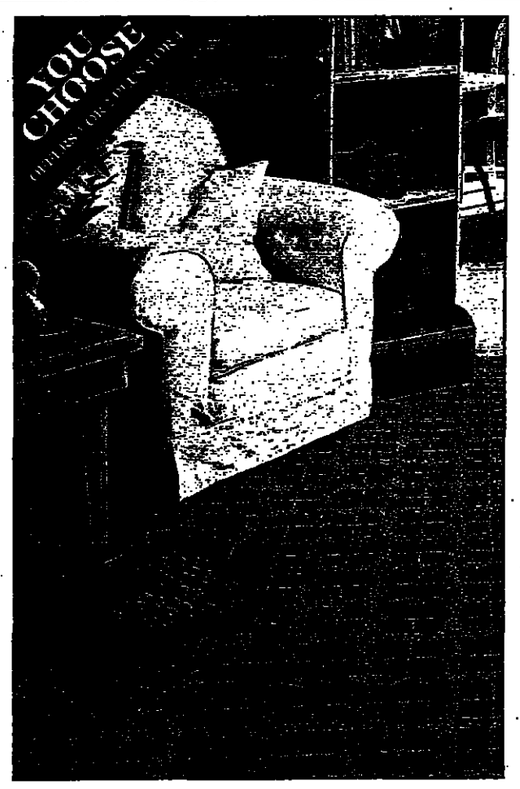

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Two years of campaigning led to U-turn

By Jill Sherman and Ian Murray

THE DEAL

TONY BLAIR struck the deal to exempt Formula One motor racing from the proposed tobacco sponsorship ban at a meeting with racing chiefs at Downing Street on October 16.

The Prime Minister was persuaded by Max Mosley, president of the sport's governing body and Bernie Ecclestone, president of the Formula One Association, that the future of motor racing would be jeopardised and thousands of jobs lost if the sport was covered by the ban.

The meeting was the culmination of a two-year lobbying campaign. Senior adminstrators met Mr Blair at social events before and after the election. They noticed that both Tony Blair and John Prescott were motor racing enthusiasts.

Mr Blair attended the British Grand Prix with his family last year, while Mr Prescott went in 1995 and this year.

"We have always had a better relationship with Labour than the Conservatives," Mr Mosley said last night. "They are more interested in the sport."

Mr Blair's direct intervention comes after months of negotiations between Tessa Jowell, the Health Minister, the tobacco industry and the motor sports industry.

Labour has had a longstanding commitment to ban tobacco advertising which appeared in its election manifesto. But the move was not one of Tony Blair's priorities, and was hardly mentioned in the election campaign.

Westminster was taken by surprise when Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary decided to go further with a ban on tobacco sponsorship of sport. Mr Mosley said: "We were a bit horrified when they announced it after the election because it meant there was a whole new agenda. Lobbying then doubled and redoubled."

Other ministers targeted included Ms Jowell. Mr Mosley said: "She wants to reduce the amount of advertising. In the end we were able to show her that the most efficient way is not to have a ban, which would increase the amount of advertising on television, but to have a voluntary agreement."

The first signs that the lobbying paid off came in September when Frank Dobson conceded that Britain would allow existing contracts with tobacco sponsors to run their course. But both he and Ms Jowell were still insisting that no sports would be excluded from the ban.

Mr Mosley and his team pressed on, stressing the impact on jobs. "Their arguments were very persuasive," Downing Street said.

Mr Mosley, who gave up smoking 30 years ago because of the health risks, said that if the ban went ahead the sport would have staged only three Grand Prix events inside the European Union each year instead of nine. Four of the others would probably have gone to eastern Europe and one each to Asia and Africa.

"This is not blackmail. We are a sport than can run inside the EU or outside the EU. If we are deprived of sponsorship worth more than £100 million then it is quite obvious that we will go elsewhere."

He added: "We are totally committed to bringing in a voluntary code which will reduce advertising. We have made it clear that if they deliver this exemption from the EU directive, we will deliver a meaningful code."

However, there were forecasts yesterday that technology may allow Formula One to keep tobacco sponsorship and not offend anti-smoking campaigners within the next three years. With digital television, tobacco-sponsored cars could still have their logos displayed on cars at the circuits and be broadcast to nations where cigarette advertising is not an issue. In Britain and other European nations where cigarette advertising is banned, the names could be erased by computer technology.

The Formula One Constructors' Association is planning to run its own television output with technology that will give it control of everything seen by more than 450 million viewers in 130 countries.

The move would be a further twist in a battle of wits between cigarette sponsors and the anti-smoking lobby.

When Camel, now no longer in F1, found its logo banned, it simply repainted the cars with a registration plate-style CAME 1 symbol. The Jordan Peugeot team went further at this year's British Grand Prix, where tobacco advertising was banned, by replacing its Benson & Hedges logo with the wordplay of Biten and Hisses on cars featuring a snake's head design. Williams simply painted large question marks on the distinctive Rothmans blue, white and gold livery of its cars.

MAN IN THE NEWS

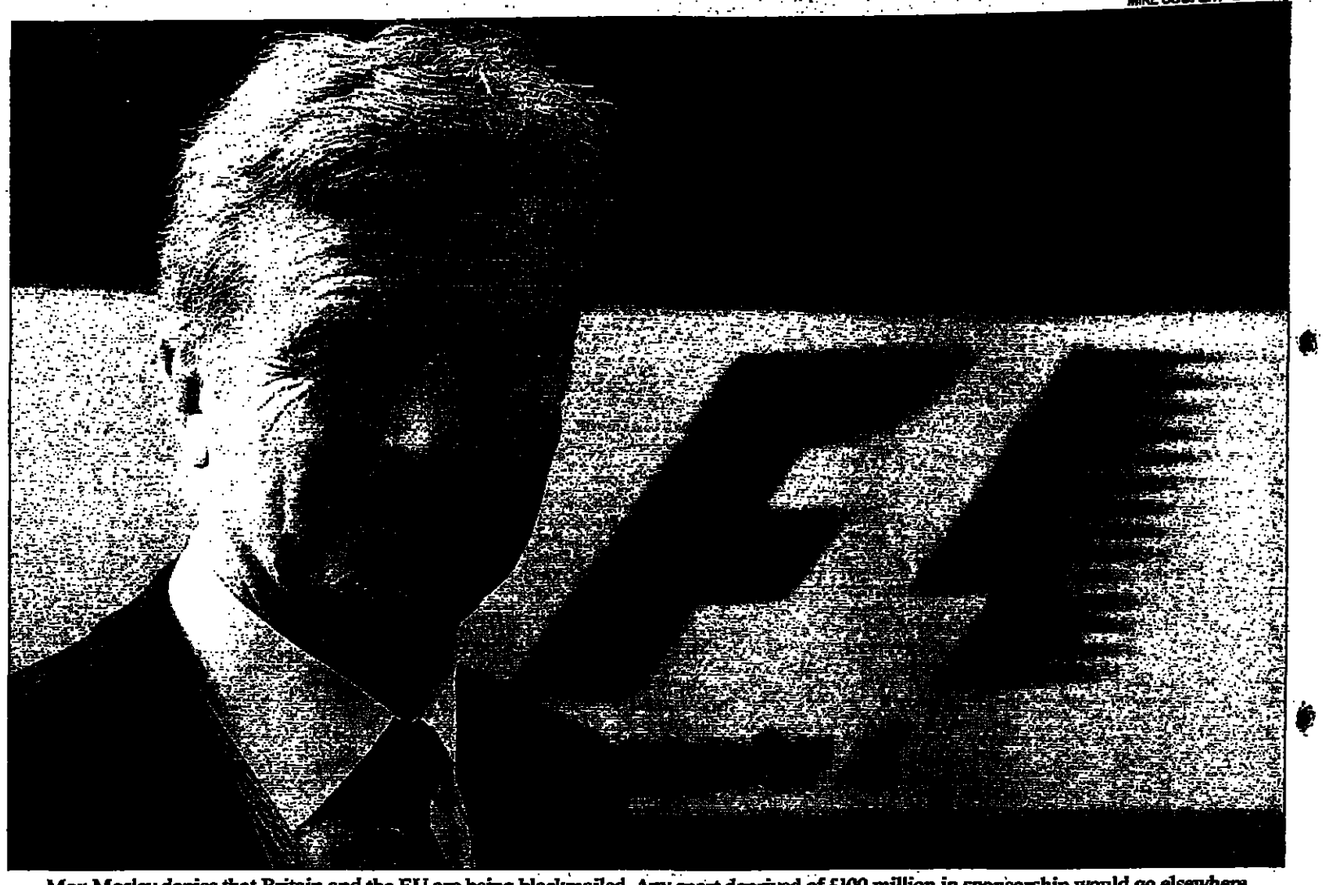
MAX MOSLEY, 57, head of motorsport's world governing body, sacrificed a career at the Bar to pursue his ambition to become a racing driver. It was a dream that ended when he crashed at 150mph in his Lotus at Nürburgring 30 years ago.

He had taken part a year earlier in the Formula Two race at Hockenheim in which Jim Clark was killed, and his own crash convinced his wife that the sport was too dangerous to allow him to go on driving.

The son of Oswald Mosley, he flirted briefly with the idea of becoming a Tory politician, but decided instead to enter motor racing and founded the March team. He quickly became outspoken at meetings and became friends with Bernie Ecclestone, the Brabham team owner. The two took on the responsibility for negotiating for all Formula One teams and they naturally became the two leading figures in the sport.

As president of the Fédération International de l'Automobile, Mr Mosley sees his role as representing motorists worldwide. He uses his position to influence the EU and spends a lot of time in Brussels negotiating behind the scenes about safety, which his own crash experience has turned into an obsession.

The politics of the sport intrigues him and he thrives on it. This means he has no regrets that his father's name meant he felt he could not enter British politics. "As soon as I go abroad nobody cares about my name, so the obvious thing is to work for an international organisation," he said.



MIKE COOPER / ALLSPORT

Max Mosley denies that Britain and the EU are being blackmailed. Any sport deprived of £100 million in sponsorship would go elsewhere

Sport chasing TV audience and new addicts

By Michael Calvin

POWER SHIFT

THE threat to shift Formula One's powerbase from Europe to the Pacific Rim was couched in common courtesies. But anyone with a rudimentary knowledge of the world's most commercially successful sport knew it was not an idle gesture.

Two new circuits, in Malaysia and South Korea, will be ready to be included in the Formula One calendar from 1999. Plans for expansion into Indonesia, China and India are well advanced.

Traditionalists, outraged by the prospect of races such as the British Grand Prix being held only once every three years to compensate for the shift in the sport's centre of gravity, are powerless. Formula One's success is based upon its global nature. It claims an average of 320 million viewers in 130 nations for each of the season's 17 races.

The Pacific Rim offers 70 per cent of the global television audience; the European Union only 12 per cent. Asia is a key developing market for the cigarette companies, who underpin the leading teams with sponsorship packages of up to £40 million a year.

Reemsa, a German company, pushes its West brand through the McLaren team. Rothmans plans to use a new two-year deal with world champions Williams to promote its Winfield brand. Ferrari defied tradition by accepting backing from Marlboro.

The French-based Prost team carries the Gauloises logo, and the Benetton and Minardi teams feature the Mild Seven brand, marketed by Japan Tobacco.

The sums involved in sustaining a challenge in a sport that operates on the edge of technology are so immense, that a new team built around Jacques Villeneuve, the current champion, planned for 1999, would be stillborn without the backing of British American Tobacco. Sources suggest that BAT is prepared to invest up to £250 million.

The only team to make a conscious effort to distance itself from cigarette sponsorship is Stewart Grand Prix, launched this year by former world champion Jackie and his son, Paul. It is the only team sponsored by a country, Malaysia, and has developed supplementary sponsors with business interests in the region.

An expertise unrivalled in the world

By Kevin Eason

INDUSTRY

BRITAIN risked damaging a showpiece industry employing more than 50,000 people if Formula One was thrown into turmoil by the loss of tobacco sponsorship.

The most successful cars, the best engines, the top designers and the best mechanics all come from Britain, whose domination of world motor sport is almost embarrassing.

That entrepeneurial spirit and technical skills have been channelled into an industry worth £1.3 billion and which exports half of its products. About 90 per cent of the world's race and rally cars are made here.

Motor racing, spearheaded by Formula One, also has one of the highest worldwide profiles with names including McLaren, Williams and Cosworth becoming bywords for innovation and excellence.

Losing the sponsorship could have pushed companies to search for finance in the Far East where rules are more relaxed. This would ultimately tempt even the most patriotic racing teams to invest at least some of their ventures there. The risk was one the industry could not afford to take. A range of activities — from specialist engineering and electronics companies to design colleges — would have been affected.

British dominance is nowhere better demonstrated than on the grid for each of this season's Formula One races: of the 20 cars lining up, 12 were made in Britain; France and Switzerland field a single team each, Italy two.

In 40 seasons of modern F1 racing, a British manufacturer or car with British engine power has won 32 times. That does not tell the entire story though for much of the pit-lane technology comes mainly from companies in a golden triangle bounded by the M4 from Slough through Oxfordshire up to the M1 at Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire.

When Mercedes-Benz wanted to enter Formula One with its own engine, it looked for expertise to the tiny village of Brixworth in Northamptonshire. The logos on this year's McLarens, which come from Surrey, say engines by Mercedes, but they are made by British workers at Ilmor Engineering.

Almost all the cars on the grid for CART racing — formerly known as Indycar — in the US are supplied from Britain, by Reynard and Lola.

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Hijackers get lenient terms after jury's plea

By Pat Clarke

SIX Iraqis who fear death under Saddam Hussein's regime were jailed for terms ranging from five to nine years yesterday after hijacking a jet and forcing it to fly them to Britain.

Armed with "grenades" that were in fact sauce bottles, knives and claiming to have explosives, the Iraqis terrorised 197 passengers and crew for 20 hours. A jury at the Old Bailey convicted them last week of the armed hijack of the Sudan Airways aircraft, but sent a note to the judge saying that they felt "great compassion" for the defendants. Mr Justice Wright told the six that, although he paid "close attention" to the jurors' plea for compassion, "I must pass sentences that reflect society's condemnation."

Eight of the jury returned today to see the Iraqis sentenced. The judge said the entire jury had expressed their sympathy with the situation in which the Iraqis found themselves. "Clearly I must pay great attention to that expression from the 12 ordinary members of the British public who have listened attentively to all the evidence in this case, and I do."

He gave his assurance that, because of the jury's plea, he was prepared "in the circumstances of this case" to pass significantly shorter sentences than he would otherwise have done. "Nevertheless, nothing can obscure the fact that the offence you six men planned and carried out is an offence of the greatest possible gravity and carries the maximum sentence of life imprisonment."

He said in the past seven years there had been 225 hijacks or attempted hijacks. "It is of the highest importance that I pass sentences on you that deter others from a similar course," he said.

"The most serious aspect of the case of all arises out of the international nature of this offence. This country, as a member of the international community, owes obligations to the world at large to do whatever is in our power to protect international airline communications and the many thousands of people travelling on airlines every year."

Mr Justice Wright added that part of that duty was to make clear that no one dissatisfied with conditions in their own country should think they could force their way into the United Kingdom's jurisdiction without facing the severest penalties.

"In this kind of case, perhaps above all others, deterrence is a particular aspect and important part of my responsibility. I have to have regard to the abject terror you inflicted on your fellow passengers, even though it may only have been for a relatively short time at the outset of the hijack."

He added that, at times during the lengthy evidence brought on behalf of the six defendants, the passengers had been forgotten.

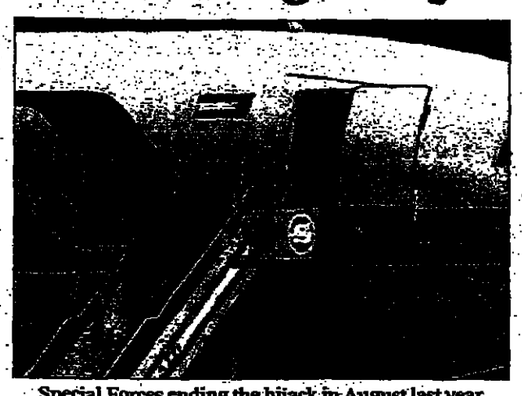
Adnan Hoshan, 39, the leader of the hijack, was sentenced to nine years. He had come to Britain in 1987 to study performing arts and applied for asylum in 1990. He said if he had returned to Iraq, "I would be in a prison if I was lucky. It does not cost more than 50p for a bullet."

Hoshan lived in North London and wanted his fiancée and her family to join him, the prosecution had said. The woman and her female relatives had also fled from Iraq after some male relatives had died or disappeared, the court was told. It emerged during the trial that Hoshan had acted as a Scarlet Pimpernel figure, helping Iraqis to escape.

The judge told him: "You were in no personal danger. You conceived, led and planned this exploit. You behaved in a terrifying way in the early stages. Yours is undoubtedly the greatest responsibility for the crime."

In the dock with Hoshan were Saheb Aboud, 31, unemployed; Hasah Hasan, 34, self-employed; Mustafa Hussin, 33, student; Maged Nagi, 36, unemployed; and Muhammad Muhssin, 39, a clothing worker. They had all denied hijacking an aircraft between Khartoum and Amman between August 25 and 28 last year. Muhssin and Aboud were jailed for seven years, and the remaining three for five years.

The hijackers may achieve their goal to stay in Britain: a criminal record is no bar to being granted asylum. (*PA*)



Special Forces ending the hijack in August last year

JULIA QUENZLER

The hijackers at the Old Bailey, from left: Hoshan, the leader, Muhssin, Hussin, Nagi, Hasan and Aboud

£7.5m win for soccer museum in extra time

By Robin Young

A NEW museum dedicated to the history of football is to receive a grant of £7.5 million from lottery funds to open at one of the original homes of the game: Preston North End's Deepdale ground. The grant is £1.8 million more than the figure agreed in principle last February, and will mean the project can be built on a grander scale.

The extra work involved will mean, however, that the Football Museum will not now be open until 1999, 18 months later than envisaged.

Preston North End was one of the founder members of the Football League in 1888, and the faces of its team which won the league and the FA Cup double in the 1888-89 season have pride of place among the collection, which also has items belonging to such legends of the game as Sir Stanley Matthews and Sir Bobby Charlton.

The core of the displays will be memorabilia currently owned by Fifa, the sport's governing body, acquired largely from Harry Langton, a Yorkshire-born sports journalist who gathered together the world's largest collection of football art. The collection includes representations of ancient Chinese, Greek, Roman and Anglo-Saxon forms of football, works of art depicting the 19th-century game, and the oldest known table football game, manufactured in Preston in 1884.

The club's most celebrated player, Tom Finney, has contributed his collection of caps and boots, and Derby County supporters turned out the bell and rattle with which they toured the country on their Cup-winning run just after the Second World War. Kevin Moore, the museum's director, said: "Other football display projects may have more of Disney or interactivity about them, but ours is a museum with a serious intent and a collection of real items.

"We have already established an institute of football studies in association with the University of Central Lancashire, and show our serious research purpose through the publication of Dr David Russell's book, *Football and the English*."

Football, pages 44, 48

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Conran helps Blair to show off British style

Polly Newton on the Government's attempt to prove that anything the the French can do we can do better

TONY BLAIR has drafted in Sir Terence Conran in an attempt to prove that Britain can outdo French style.

At the Government's request, and for no fee, the man who founded the Habitat chain of furniture stores has transformed one of the top floors at Canary Wharf tower in London's Docklands in preparation for tomorrow's Anglo-French summit there.

Sir Terence has used furniture by a clutch of young British designers to create the striking setting for discussions between Mr Blair, his French counterpart, Lionel Jospin, and the French President, Jacques Chirac.

A Downing Street spokesman said last night that the aim was to portray Britain's fresh image under Labour. "We will prove that we can show the French a thing or two about style," he said.

Sir Terence has used furniture by designers including Tom Dixon, Matthew Hilton, Jasper Morrison and Terrence Woodgate. His task was to turn a huge open floor space into more intimate meeting rooms where ministers and officials can comfortably discuss such issues as the French lorry drivers' blockade and the single currency.

Nothing has been left to chance. There are designer rugs, designer flower arrangements and designer lights. The food is being provided by Anton Escalera, chef at the Midsummer House restaurant in Cambridge.

It is not the first time that he has done Mr Blair a favour. He was one of a handful of successful business executives to endorse Labour before the general election, appearing in a broadcast on behalf of the party.

This year he provided a table at short notice at one of his smartest restaurants, the Pont de la Tour in Butler's Wharf, for the Prime Minister and his wife, Cherie, to entertain President and Mrs Clinton.

Conran: backed Blair before the election

Sir Terence, 66, who has an informal role advising the Government, said in May: "This is the first time in my lifetime that I have known a Government to be involved and interested in the importance of design and architecture."

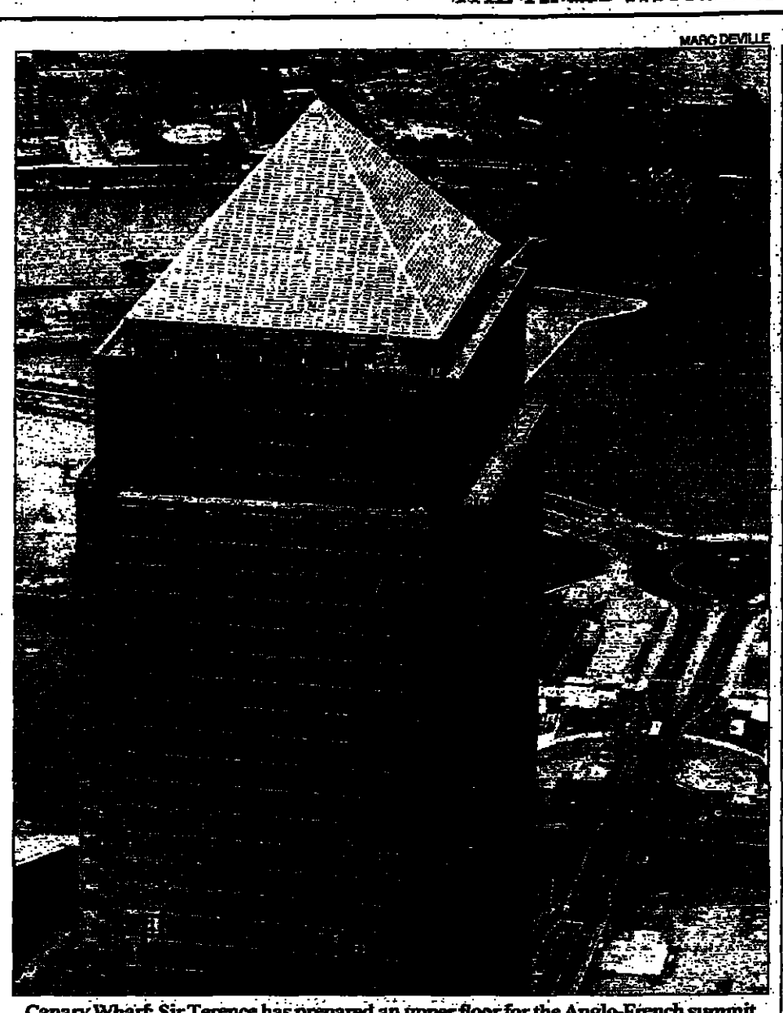
Once described snootily as "the Andrew Lloyd Webber of kitchenware and scatter cushions", he sold his groundbreaking Habitat chain to Ikea several years ago. He has since built up a new retail business of Conran Shops. His restaurant empire, which includes Quaglinos and Mezzo, has expanded greatly over the past few years and is now estimated to cater for 70,000 diners a week.

Canary Wharf, the tallest office tower in Europe, was chosen as the summit venue as part of Mr Blair's drive to update Britain's image. Previous summits have been held in Downing Street and Chequers. A Government spokesman said the setting would help to promote Britain on the international stage. "It is a modern building with spectacular views in a regenerated part of the capital."

The departure from tradition follows the Government's decision last month to opt for a new style of opening ceremony at the Commonwealth summit in Edinburgh. The lone Scottish piper was dropped in favour of a video displaying Britain's achievements in design, technology and finance.

Security at the Anglo-French summit will be particularly tight. In February last year, the IRA chose Docklands to end its 17-month ceasefire with a bomb that killed two people. Canary Wharf tower was also the target of an attempted IRA attack in November 1992.

MARC DEVILLE



Canary Wharf: Sir Terence has prepared an upper floor for the Anglo-French summit

Rebel MP rebuked by Tory colleagues

By Andrew Pierce

THE rebel Tory MP Peter Temple-Morris has been rebuked by pro-European party colleagues over his claims they would challenge William Hague's leadership.

Members of Conservative Mainstream, a revamped umbrella organisation of left-of-centre Tories, has written to Mr Hague to deny Mr Temple-Morris's suggestion that they would operate as a factional group.

The letter was released to coincide with the second annual conference of Mainstream at Westminster today, which is the relaunch of the pro-European Tories' fightback. Strenuous attempts have been made by the organisers to portray the gathering as a constructive policy forum.

Tony Baldry, chairman of Mainstream's parliamentary group, said in the letter: "When announcing that he intended to stay within the Conservative Party . . . Mr Temple-Morris made a number of references to Mainstream that were not correct. There is no substance in the suggestion that Parliamentary Mainstream has any desire to challenge the party leadership or in any way be a disruptive force within the party."

Mr Temple-Morris, who last week withdrew his threat to defect to Labour over the Shadow Cabinet's hardline opposition to a single currency, will now make only a fleeting appearance at the conference. He had been expected to play a leading role.

Tory leaders are hoping that the conference will not aggravate differences on the euro. Kenneth Clarke, one of the principal speakers, will restrict his remarks to the economy but Lord Howe of Aberavon is expected to criticise the Shadow Cabinet.

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY In the Commons: questions to agriculture ministers and the Attorney-General; Supreme Court (Offices) Bill, all stages; Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Bill, second reading; debate on London Fire Service. In the Lords: debate on defence.

How Nolan's successor can keep up the good work

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

ONE of the most valuable legacies of John Major's premiership is the Nolan committee, more formally the Committee on Standards in Public Life. Since 1994, it has had a far-reaching impact not just on Parliament but on standards throughout government. From this weekend, however, it will no longer be the Nolan committee since Lord Nolan is stepping down, with an appropriate flourish: marked by the Dimbleby lecture last night, appearances before Lords and Commons committees, and a final progress report tomorrow. Last night he offered the best definition so far of sleaze as "the selfish use of public office for personal advantage. Sleaze is not necessarily financial, and not necessarily illegal. It involves bending the rules without breaking them."

The Nolan committee will always be associated with the cash-for-questions affair and the resulting changes in the regulation of MPs' affairs. But its real significance is much wider. As Lord Nolan pointed out, Mr Major set up the committee not just as a short-term solution to immediate political pressures, "a crisis of confidence about the behaviour of those in public office", but as a standing "ethical workshop" — though I am less sure than his lordship that anyone in Whitehall had then really thought out what this meant.

At times, the committee has appeared unworldly, just blaming a few "bad apples" for exaggerated public perceptions of sleaze. Nonetheless, it has addressed structural weaknesses and established itself in this role, what he describes as "slightly outside the system". It has done what MPs and government had failed to do over many years — deal with growing abuses, respond to evident ethical confusion and produce new codes of conduct. Inside reform had not worked, so it was necessary for an outside body to propose a solution — having the authority to ensure that its recommendations would be accepted. But it has not applied the new codes. Parliament has remained responsible for its own regulation.

In its first three reports, the committee covered the Commons, public appointments, business jobs for ex-ministers, national and local quangos and local government. Several reforms have been introduced, removing many doubts about how people are appointed to quangos, while the Business Appointments Committee has sensitively applied the rules on jobs taken by ex-ministers. The original hysterical fears of some Tory MPs about the extinction of the professional classes from the Commons have not been remotely justified.

After the election, there were doubts about the committee's future role — would the new Government regard itself as ethically so above board that it did not need such a watchdog? Fortunately, Tony Blair has accepted that the committee's central advisory role should continue, in addition to the new specific study on party funding and monitoring of earlier reports. The latter is critical, especially given the tendency for recommendations to be buried or sidelined. There is a good case for a short inquiry now into the new *Ministerial Code* and the role of special advisers. Lord Nolan last night suggested that the committee should be consulted by the Government on the ethical implications of proposed constitutional changes — Scottish and Welsh devolution, a Greater London Authority and reform of the House of Lords.

Sir Patrick Neill, the new chairman, should consider three changes. First, the membership of the committee needs refreshing and renewing. Some of the original members were venerable when appointed three years ago and should be replaced by some less establishment-minded figures. Secondly, the committee should initiate its own research, particularly on funding. Thirdly, it should be able to choose its own subjects for inquiry, obviously within its broad terms of reference. Sir Patrick has the great advantage of inheriting from Lord Nolan an important working addition to our constitutional checks and balances.

PETER RIDDELL

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Crowbar attack on pickets as Paris talks open

By Ben Macintyre in Paris and Kathryn Knight

A DOZEN masked men wielding crowbars and baseball bats attacked striking lorry drivers at a blockade in southern France early yesterday, as union leaders and haulage bosses sought a way to end the increasingly violent and economically destructive drivers' strike.

The predawn assault on illegal pickets manning a roadblock at Vitrolles, near Marseilles, allowed a convoy of refrigerator lorries to force its way through the barricades and provoked fury among fellow strikers across the country. Three people were injured in the attack and one was taken to a Marseilles hospital with serious head wounds.

As the strike stranglehold tightened, British drivers yesterday faced a 12-hour wait to board cross-Channel ferries. With a large section of the M20 cordoned off to create an impromptu freight park, many drivers were facing a 24-hour extension to their journeys as they diverted via the Belgian ports of Zeebrugge and Ostend.

Early yesterday, more than 200 lorries were queueing between junctions 11 and 12 on the M20. Eurotunnel took advantage of the deadlock to try to persuade queueing drivers to travel via Le Shuttle instead.

Union leaders blamed the Marseilles attack on TFE, the company whose lorries broke through the barricades, and suggested that the attack may have been carried out by ultra-rightwingers because Vitrolles is one of several southern towns controlled by the extreme-right National Front.

Five employees of a private security firm were brought in for questioning by Vitrolles police after the attack. An official for TFE, which controls a fifth of the refrigerated transport trade in France, denied that the company had played any role in the assault, but angry lorry drivers blockaded the firm's premises near Bordeaux.

On Tuesday night, two strikers were injured when a car rammed a roadblack north of Lille, and a protester was injured at another blockade in Marseilles.

While tension on the barricades may be increasing, union leaders and haulage bosses in Paris struck a more conciliatory note as both sides returned to the negotiating table. For the first time since the strike began last Sunday, the largest employers' group, the UFT, agreed to take part in the talks. "We want to negotiate and reach a lasting solution. We are optimistic," said Jean-Paul Deneuville, a chief negotiator for the employers. The unions are demanding a pay rise of up to 7 per cent, a guaranteed minimum wage of Fr10,000 (£1,000) a month for 200 hours worked and extra pay for time spent loading and waiting. Any pay agreement brokered in Paris, however, may still be rejected by union members, who in many cases are more militant than their elected representatives.

Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister, anxious to get negotiations moving before a Franco-British summit starts today, has called on haulage firms to honour promises made after last year's strike and announced legislation to reinforce lorry drivers' rights. Police officers reported fewer traffic jams yesterday, partly because a third of the nation's petrol stations have run dry, forcing many motorists off the roads. At least 160 roadblocks remained in place and half of all French fuel depots have been cut off by strikers' blockades.

Body and Mind, page 18
Letters, page 21

PETER NICHOLLS

French drivers delivering shipments of Christmas toys to Britain wait for a ferry to Dover in the Belgian port of Ostend yesterday

Brown is bystander as EU brawls over central bank chief

From Charles Bremner in Brussels

BRITAIN was given an early taste of the consequences of its decision to stand back from joining the launch of monetary union yesterday when European Union states took sides in a bitter wrangle between Germany and France over management of the future euro zone.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, acknowledged that Britain had no say in the row that broke out when President Chirac defied long-standing German wishes and proposed a Frenchman to head the future European central bank, the guardian of the single currency. The dispute soured the air in Brussels yesterday as EU finance ministers met to pave the way for an EU summit in Luxembourg this month devoted to curbing unemployment.

As a non-participant in European economic and monetary union, Britain will be a spectator next spring when the founding euro states, expected to include all the others but Sweden, Denmark and Greece, meet to pick the president and six directors of the central bank.

Germany and most EU states had long favoured Wim Duisenberg, the Dutchman who heads the European Monetary Institute, the body that will become the central bank. In what is widely seen as a French bid for more influence over the management of the currency, Paris proposed its own central bank governor, Jean-Claude Trichet. Among the few countries sympathising with France was Italy, which was stung when Mr Duisenberg questioned Rome's credentials for joining the euro.

Mr Brown, meeting his EU colleagues for the first time since the decision to stay out of monetary union at least until the next Parliament, dismissed suggestions in Brussels that Britain could lose influence as power shifted to the countries inside the euro zone. Monetary union was "just one issue in European economic policy", he said. Britain would continue to play a leadership role, showing how the European economy could prosper and the jobless rate go down with British-style moves towards more flexible labour markets.

Mr Brown raised eyebrows when he cited the employment summit as the chief example of British leadership so far. The gathering is the product of a proposal by President Chirac.

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Floods threaten Somali aid team

Nairobi: Aid agencies are sending a helicopter to Somalia to rescue five relief workers threatened by rising floodwaters.

The five — two Americans, a Filipino and an Indian working for the US-based World Vision, and a Somali working for the UN World Food Programme (WFP) — were stranded in the World Vision compound at Buaale in the Juba River valley in southern Somalia, said Michele Quintaglie of the WFP.

On Tuesday, she added, the stranded workers had shot a crocodile that invaded the compound as water rose.

Signora Quintaglie said the helicopter was leaving Nairobi yesterday and would go on to Buaale today to bring the five back to Nairobi. Local people were making their way to the safety of higher ground as the torrential rain continued. *(AFP, AP)*

Typhoon odyssey captured on video

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ONE of the worst cyclones to strike the Cook Islands has left five people dead and 14 missing while hundreds of homes have been wiped out by towering waves.

The worst-hit atoll, Manihiki, 900 miles north of the capital, Rarotonga, was completely submerged and four members of a family of five made an amazing escape when a wave flipped their boat over. Helena Williams, 21, was lost overboard but four other family members managed to scramble aboard again. They were washed ashore later yesterday, 24 miles from Manihiki on the neighbouring island of Rakahanga, where they were hospitalised in stable condition. They managed to capture much of their three-day ordeal on videotape.

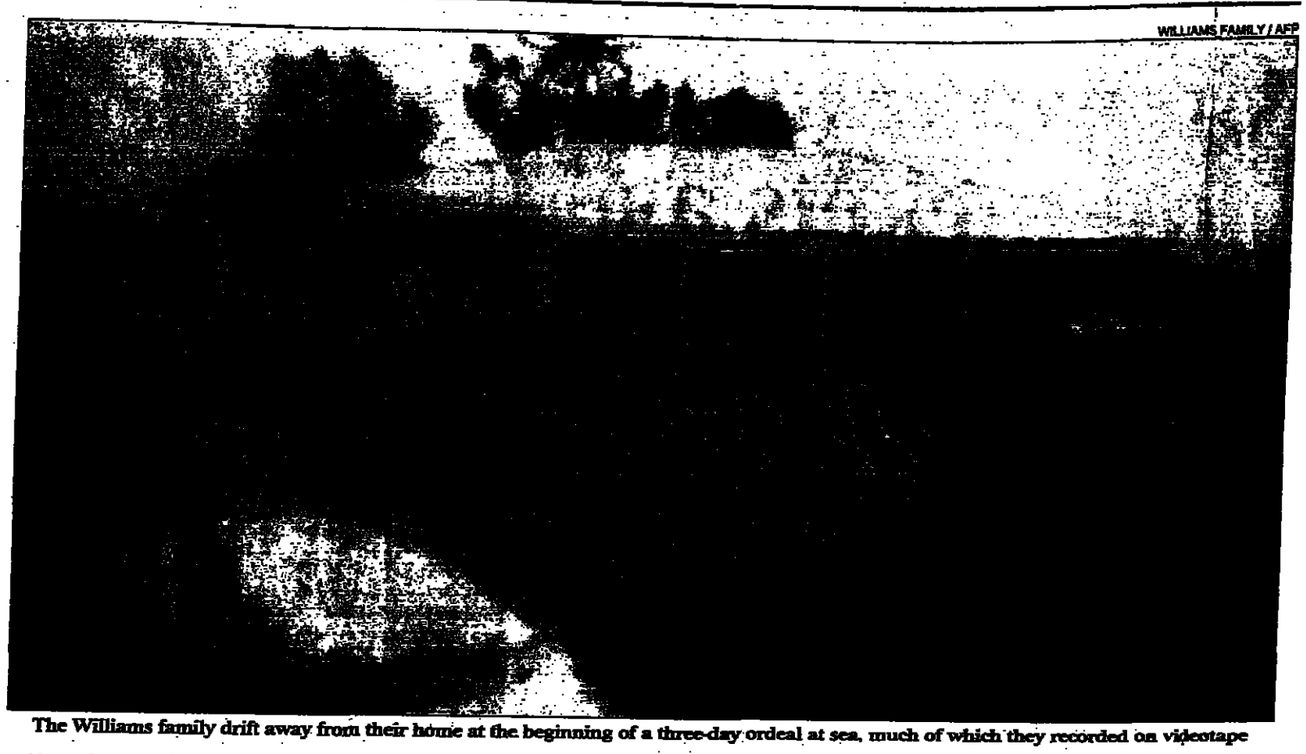
Cyclone Martin, with winds gusting at more than 100mph, damaged 90 per cent of Rakahanga's buildings and brought even worse destruction to Manihiki and its surrounding pearl farms. By yesterday 160 people had been airlifted off the island by New Zealand Air Force Hercules transports, and local reports said an evacuation of Manihiki's entire population of 600 was likely.

The storm struck the northern Cook Islands on Saturday, wiping out the Manihiki village of Tukao and pulling up to 30 people into raging seas, according to initial reports. Five bodies have since been found there. A search continues, but Brian Mason, a government spokesman, said the chances of finding anyone alive were "not great". The cyclone is now moving west towards French Polynesia.

Explored by Captain James Cook on three famous voyages in the 1770s, the Cook Islands were part of New Zealand until 1965, since when they have been self-governing. The far-flung string of 15 atolls in the central South Pacific has a total population of about15,000, many of whom appear set on leaving for good after the weekend disaster.

"The plan is, New Zealand," one official said on Manihiki. Others plan to stay and rebuild, however.

☐ **Jakarta:** Winds from Typhoon Linda fanned flames from Indonesian peat fires and swept smog back to neighbouring Southeast Asian countries yesterday. The typhoon, which swept through the Gulf of Thailand at the weekend, also caused the deaths of more than 200 people in Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. Nearly 5,000 people are still reported missing. *(Reuters)*



WILLIAMS FAMILY / AFP

The Williams family drift away from their home at the beginning of a three-day ordeal at sea, much of which they recorded on videotape

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THE SCANDINAVIAN VIEWPOINT

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Murderers shoot their way out of Australian prison

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

POLICE in Queensland, Australia, were hunting five dangerous prisoners last night who escaped from a maximum-security jail in Brisbane.

"We consider these five escapees to be the most dangerous and desperate people on the streets of Australia at the moment and police are absolutely petrified and terrified as to what they may do to remain at large," the police said.

Jail authorities said the breakout was well planned and they believed that at least two accomplices helped by smuggling in equipment and leaving a getaway car with guns and ammunition nearby. The men, three of them convicted murderers, apparently used "angel wire", which is embedded with diamond edges, to cut the bars of their cells, then used their bedsheets to winch open the bars.

The prisoners then used cell chairs to scale a fence topped with two rolls of razor wire. After cutting through three more security fences, the five prisoners reached the jail's perimeter fence and were thrown bolt-cutters by two people outside the prison.

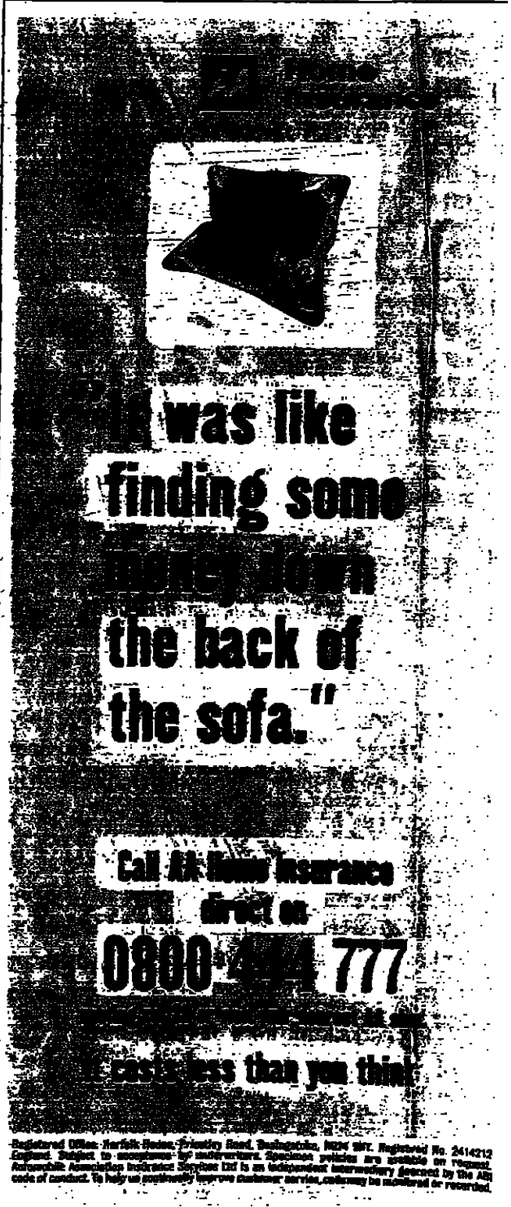
Alarms sounded and a guard who ran to the spot was shot at, possibly from the outside. Rifle shots during the breakout, also believed to have been fired from outside the jail, immobilised the car patrolling the perimeter fence.

"When the patrol vehicle got to within 70 metres [230ft] of the perimeter it was fired upon and both of its batteries were destroyed," a prisons official said. One bullet fired from an elevated position pierced the unarmoured roof of the vehicle, but the two prison officers inside were not hit.

The prisoners and two accomplices then ran down a road to a waiting car and sped off. A police car gave chase, but pulled back when fired on.

The prisoners' blood-spattered getaway car was found later abandoned in a Brisbane suburb. Police believe that one of the occupants had been injured.

Among those who escaped from the Sir David Longland jail in the western suburbs of Brisbane was a bank robber known as the Postcard Bandit. James Robert Abbott sent detectives postcards of himself posing outside police stations during his six years on the run after breaking out of a Perth jail in the late 1980s. He was believed to have hidden a huge amount of cash, the unrecovered money from his bank hold-ups.



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TOM MIHALEK / EPA

Christine Todd Whitman, the Governor of New Jersey, who clung to office with a narrow margin, defeating Jim McGreevy, a Democrat

MIKE SEGAR / REUTERS

Rudolph Giuliani, showered with confetti, acknowledges his supporters' cheers

Republican night of glory

In local elections across the United States the message is clear: tax cuts win votes, reports **Bronwen Maddox**

PUNCHING both fists high in the air, surrounded by a cloud of coloured paper streamers, Rudolph Giuliani, the Mayor of New York, swept to victory in a night of triumph for Republicans in local elections across the United States.

In Virginia, the new Governor, James Gilmore, led the first Republican sweep of the state's three highest offices, while in the closest race, Christine Todd Whitman, the Governor of New Jersey, clung on to power by a razor-thin margin.

The party's success in the highest-profile races among the hundreds of elections on Tuesday may have given it an important boost before next year's congressional elections, when Democrats will try to regain control of the House of Representatives.

After Mr Giuliani's victory over Ruth Messinger, a Democrat, by 57 per cent of the vote to 41 per cent, he is now tipped as a contender for the White House in 2000. Speculation was fuelled by his comment yesterday that "I don't cut off options" when asked to pledge that he would serve his full four years as Mayor.

Mr Giuliani's victory makes him the first Republican since 1937 to be re-elected in the traditionally Democratic city. It was not just his combative, flamboyant personality that beat Ms Messinger, an earnest, hardworking politician who had slogged for years on committees to improve the city's schools and rubbish disposal. Demonstrating the cross-party appeal that would be essential in any presidential bid, Mr Giuliani won the support of the city's Democratic voters by his claim to have driven down crime and turned around the city's finances.

In nearby New Jersey, Ms Whitman, a former Republican golden girl once tipped for the vice-presidential nomination, held out against both the lacklustre Jim McGreevy and conservatives in her own party who see her as too liberal and too aristocratic.

However, the narrowness of her victory, 47 per cent against Mr McGreevy's 46 per cent, has been hailed by the increasingly powerful band of Southern conservatives within the Republican Party. They argued yesterday that "moderate" candidates such as Ms Whitman, who backs abortion rights, are losing ground within the party and with voters.

In Virginia, voters sent Republicans with decisive majorities into the offices of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor (deputy governor) and Attorney-General. The state held good to its conservative tradition; as an old joke has it, it takes three Virginians to change a light bulb: one to screw it in and two to tell you how good the old bulb was. But the victories also sent a clear message that tax cuts win votes. The issue that finally pulled the Republicans ahead was a proposal to cut the state's much hated annual tax on car owners.

That is a message Republican congressional leaders were delighted to hear. It appears to offer them a traditional, simple formula — tax cuts and family values — for fighting next year's congressional elections, when Democrats will try to overturn the Republican majority of 11 in the 435-member House.

Democrats pointed out yesterday that they did well in lower-profile mayoral races, winning in Boston, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh. They also argue that the triumph of Mr Giuliani and Ms Whitman shows the enduring appeal of relatively liberal social values.

Leading article, page 21

Voters reject gun control proposition

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE American gun lobby scored an important victory in Washington State yesterday after voters soundly defeated the most sweeping handgun safety measure yet placed on a United States ballot.

One of 43 propositions faced by voters across the country, the gun control initiative was swiftly rejected as were attempts in Oregon to reverse America's only euthanasia law and a campaign in Houston, Texas, to end affirmative action programmes for minorities.

Oregon voters supported doctor-assisted suicide for the second time, easily defeating Measure 51, a proposal to repeal the "death with dignity" law passed three years ago that permits euthanasia for mentally competent but terminally ill patients.

In Houston, 54 per cent of voters opposed a proposition that would have steered 20 per cent of city contracts to firms run by minorities and women despite a Supreme Court ruling earlier this week which let stand California's Proposition 209 banning affirmative action in government programmes.

Maine rejected limits on clear cutting, the practice of stripping land clean rather than cutting only mature trees, and a proposal that would have allowed the mentally ill to vote.

Cincinnati, Ohio, may now lose its elephants after citizens voted against a proposed $52 million (£31 million) levy to build a new elephant house at the zoo.

NYPD blues for Russian

New York: Russia's UN Ambassador demanded an official apology here yesterday after his car keys were snatched from the ignition by a policeman (Tonku Varadarajan writes). An NYPD spokeswoman said the incident occurred after Sergei Lavrov's chauffeur made a "perilous" swerve in front of a police station.

Container stowaways suffocate

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

THREE stowaways trapped inside a sealed cargo container were found dead when their ship reached Palm Beach in Florida, two days after leaving the Dominican Republic. Seven others survived, fighting for air from a 6in hole cut in the container's wooden floor.

Crew members heard frenetic pounding in the 65ft by 10ft container three hours before the ship docked, but were powerless to help until it was unloaded by cranes.

When rescuers broke in all but two of the survivors were unconscious. The dead men lay buried in a pile of clothes. Investigators said that they probably suffocated in temperatures well over 38C (100F).

The group, nine Dominicans and a Cuban, hid in the container on Sunday as it was loaded on to the *Pampero* at Puerto Plata. They had some biscuits and water. Investigators found tools used to cut a hole in the floor, but the plan backfired because their container was stacked on top of another, blocking the vent.

This year 34 stowaways have been found at the port, and holes in containers suggest more have escaped undetected. Similar incidents have happened at Miami.

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Key aide dismissed by Yeltsin to halt feuding

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yesterday dismissed one of the Kremlin's most powerful and controversial figures to try to end a long, damaging feud among his senior advisers.

In an abrupt move, the Kremlin issued a terse statement announcing that Boris Berezovsky, the deputy head of the Security Council and one of the richest men in Russia, had been "relieved of his duties" pending his appointment to another job.

The decision was reached on Tuesday after the Russian leader was persuaded to approve the sacking by Anatoli Chubais and Boris Nemtsov, Deputy Prime Ministers in charge of the Government's reform programme, who have been locked in a public dispute with Mr Berezovsky.

The dismissal could have serious political consequences for the Kremlin leader, who relied on Mr Berezovsky's financial muscle and control of the media to stage his presidential election victory last year. Mr Berezovsky, the archetypal "new Russian" business tycoon with interests in the media, car industry, airlines and oil, was rewarded with a post at the Kremlin, where he was responsible for peace negotiations in Chechnya and related oil policy.

His relationship with the Government's leading young reformers broke down in the summer when the authorities awarded a lucrative privatisation bid for the state-owned telecommunications company to a rival banker.

Mr Nemtsov, the boyish reformer who has been the main target of Mr Berezovsky's media-led smear campaign, said that the decision to sack the billionaire was taken because he refused to suspend his business activities after accepting his official post.

Mr Berezovksy said that he had suspended his day-to-day involvement in business and that he was the victim of a campaign launched by the power-hungry young ministers.

The former mathematician's sudden removal was just the latest chapter in a series of controversies which has followed him since his Kremlin appointment a year ago.

Soon after he took up his post, it was revealed that he had applied for and received Israeli nationality. Subsequently it was rumoured that he had also acquired American citizenship. The most persistent allegations involved his alleged links with Russian organised crime. Then *Forbes* magazine, in an article entitled "The Godfather of the Kremlin", accused him of involvement in the murder of a prominent television personality.

Berezovsky: clashed with young reformers

President Milosevic at the funeral of Zoran Todorovic, a family confidant, who was murdered last month

Gangland killers rule Belgrade

Six-figure price on Milosevic's head, but most murders cost no more than a secondhand car, Tom Walker writes

ANOTHER bloodied corpse lies blanketed in the street. This time the victim is a kickboxer, a member of the local Red Star club, with no known gangland associations. It is another unexplained death in a city where contract killing has spiralled out of control.

A former police chief has labelled Belgrade a "Colombia on the Danube", while another claimed there is a hit list of 53 of Serbia's elite. In a country where the local mafia now reigns supreme, no one is safe, not even the President of Federal Yugoslavia, Slobodan Milosevic.

There is now almost one gangland murder a day in Belgrade, and among those shot over the past year have been three close associates of the Milosevic family. The latest victim was Zoran Todorovic, a close confidant of the Federal President's wife, Mira. While the President has moved into Tito's former "white palace" for his own security, the country crippled by his reign is disintegrating. The dinar is in freefall against the mark, and an outer wall of international sanctions ensures Serbia's continued isolation.

Marko Nicovic, a former Belgrade police chief and one of the few brave enough to speak out against the gangsters, says the sanctions caused the rot in Serbia. For the Milosevic Government to survive, Mr Nicovic said, deals were made with the underworld to ensure supplies of oil and other vital commodities. The mafia network spawned is now too powerful for the penniless state to break down.

"They have their relations in the Government, the police and the judiciary, they have their own infrastructure," he said. "You now have something of a brotherhood. If they think someone is a danger to their power — it doesn't matter who — they eliminate him."

One senior police officer believes Mr Milosevic is almost certain to meet a violent death: "When you are that high there is nowhere to hide. In the Balkans it is never possible to end one epoch and begin another in peace. You have to have revenge before talking about the future."

A new Belgrade magazine, *Izlaz*, has caused a stir by obtaining a DM500,000 (£172,500) quote from the city's underworld for Mr Milosevic's head. In a series of interviews with alleged assassins, it found that the average price for a Belgrade contract killing was DM20,000, or "around the price of a secondhand car".

After 20 years in the force Mr Nicovic, a former Yugoslav karate champion, said he had known many of today's gangland bosses "since they were small fry". His personal key to survival is intelligence gathering. "Information is an advantage," he said, "but I'm fit and I shoot well."

£5,500 award spells hope for Nazi slaves

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A GERMAN court yesterday gave a glimmer of hope to thousands of Nazi Germany's slave labourers who have been waiting for more than 50 years for some form of compensation. Rywka Merin, an Auschwitz camp inmate who was forced to work in a nearby munitions factory, was awarded £5,500 by a German judge who dismissed the claims of 20 other former slave workers.

"The fight will go on," said Ulrich Evers, of the Cologne-based Documentation Centre for Victims of Nazi Persecution. "It is an unsatisfactory outcome for the women involved, but potentially the judgment opens the door for hundreds of thousands of slave labourers in Eastern Europe who have yet to see any money from the federal republic."

The judgment will probably not be the final word. The rejected slave labourers and the Government are expected to lodge appeals. Mrs Merin was singled out as being entitled to compensation because she lived in Poland after the war. The other claimants were scattered throughout the Western world — in Canada, the United States, Israel and Germany. As such, they were entitled to claim compensation after the war for damages or injury inflicted by the Nazis. Under a federal compensation law, they all received some form of payment, but as Holocaust survivors rather than as slave labourers.

Those living in Eastern Europe, such as Mrs Merin, who moved to Israel in the anti-Semitic upheavals of 1968, were excluded under the terms of the law. Her settlement is regarded as compensation for loss of earnings.

☐ **London:** Holocaust survivors held a demonstration outside the German Embassy yesterday over the court's dismissal of the 20 former slave labourers' claims. Rudy Kennedy, a former Auschwitz inmate, said: "The German Government is trying to delay compensation until it is too late and the survivors have died . . . [but] we are not going to give up."

WORLD IN BRIEF

Kohl hope dashed by jobless rise

Bonn: Two weeks before a European summit on combating unemployment, Germany yesterday reported another month of stubbornly high jobless figures (Roger Boyes writes). Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, had hoped that the number out of work would dip significantly in October — thus easing pressure on the Government to take more interventionist measures — but statistics showed that unemployment rose by 19,000 to a seasonally adjusted 4.51 million.

The unemployment rate of 11.8 per cent was announced the same time as disappointing production results for September. The indications are that the economy is not picking up as quickly as initial data suggested. The opposition Social Democrats said the figures showed Herr Kohl would be attending the Luxembourg summit as a lame duck.

Fugitive killed Briton

Albuquerque: Roger Dale Yeadon, 25, an escaped Alabama prisoner, has pleaded guilty to killing a British army major when he hijacked his car in New Mexico. The convicted burglar could face life imprisonment for his part in the death of David Nichols, whose body was found in desert south of Villanueva, near Las Vegas, in September 1996. *(AP)*

Election gains for Hussein

Pro-government tribal candidates loyal to King Hussein, right, strenghened their grip on Jordan's parliament after final results in an election overshadowed by an Islamist-led opposition boycott were published yesterday (Christopher Walker writes). Tribal chiefs won 68 seats in the 80-member lower house. Independent candidates won only 12 seats and not one of the 17 women candidates was elected.

Bardot 'kiss-and-tell' win

Paris: A French court ordered Brigitte Bardot's former husband and his publisher to pay her Fr50,000 (£5,150) in damages for invading her privacy in a "kiss-and-tell" book. But the court rejected her request to seize copies of Jacques Charrier's *My Answer to BB*, published by Michel Lafon, telling of their three-year marriage that ended in divorce in 1962. *(AP)*

Gorbachev in hospital

Berne: The former Soviet President, Mikhail Gorbachev, left, is undergoing medical checks in a Swiss hospital, but is not believed to be seriously ill. Mr Gorbachev, 66, was admitted to hospital here after a routine test showed irregularities, said Roland Wiederkehr of the Swiss Green Cross, an environmental organisation of which Mr Gorbachev, who is expected to leave hospital today, is international president. *(AP)*

House arrest for Mr Big

Wellington: William Dickie, 43, who weighs 670lb — more than 47 stone — has been sentenced to house arrest in the South Island town of Ashburton on fraud and theft charges because he is too big for prison facilities. Detective Kate Wilson said that many people were sorry for Dickie, but "he's just a thief who happens to be fat". *(Reuters)*

Wife-beater brought to book

Tehran: A would-be Iranian author told a court he beat his wife and locked her up for long hours to get inspiration for his first book. The man, a bookshop assistant who faces prosecution over the attacks, spoke against his wife's divorce petition and said he had wanted to write a "book on life's sweet and bitter sides", the *Iran* daily said. *(Reuters)*

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Italy struggles to stem flood of refugees seeking haven in Europe

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ITALY yesterday admitted it was having difficulty living up to a promise to protect its European partners from a flood of illegal immigrants.

More than 1,000 refugees have arrived at southern Italian ports since last Sunday in overcrowded boats in what *La Repubblica* called "a Kurdish invasion". The latest influx has come only ten days after Rome signed the Schengen accord on free movement across borders. Only Britain and Ireland of the 15 EU member states are not signatories.

Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister, held emergency talks with Giorgio Napolitano, the Interior Minister, on how to handle the migration. "The situation is worrying," he said. "We have to take into account our concern for these desperate people, while at the same time respecting the obligations Italy has taken on with regard to other European countries who are part of Schengen. We have somehow to find a middle way."

Most of the refugees are Kurds fleeing from Iraq, but they also include Turks, Egyptians, Albanians and others. All were given refuge, and hundreds yesterday packed on to trains to the north, heading for the French border and ultimately for Germany, which has a large Kurdish population.

Doubts about Italy's fitness to join Schengen — which was signed in 1985 and came into force ten years later — led Germany and The Netherlands to block Rome's membership for two years. Italy, which has a 5,000-mile coastline almost impossible to police effectively, was finally allowed in on October 26 after satisfying its critics it had upgraded and computerised its police intelligence network. Frontier controls have been abolished at Italian airports for flights to Schengen nations, and land and sea restrictions have been "relaxed".

Ahmet Yaman, a spokesman in Rome for the Liberation Front of Kurdistan, said there were 20,000 more Kurdish refugees waiting to cross to Italy from Turkey and Greece. Greek and Turkish diplomats in Rome said the figure was exaggerated.

Many of those arriving in Italy said they had made hazardous journeys by foot to Greek and Turkish ports before paying smugglers up to £3,000 for a passage to southern Italy in cargo boats. One boat, *Hassam*, which docked at Santa Maria di Leuca on Sunday, had more than 200 women and children on board, police said. A Kurdish nurse with three children said she had left her home in Iraq three months ago, and had walked through the mountains to the Turkish coast, often travelling by night.

Another Iraqi Kurd said he had paid £300 to get as far as Istanbul by lorry, and then joined 30 other refugees. They paid another £60 a head to get to northern Greece, before paying a smuggler to take them from Patras to Lecce. Italian officials said they had been aware that Kurds were massing for an exodus to Italy, but were powerless to stop them. "We are not a leaky sieve," said Piero Fassino, the Deputy Foreign Minister. "We have sent back thousands." He said 16,000 Albanians had arrived in southern Italy during their country's crisis of last March, but 9,000 had been "repatriated".

☐ **Menton:** Twenty-five Iraqi Kurds, including a dozen children, seeking to enter Germany illegally have been arrested in this south-east French city. *(AFP)*

UN team urges Saddam to let in Americans

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND MICHAEL DYNES

A UNITED NATIONS mission attempted yesterday to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans serving in UN weapons inspection teams.

The retreat from confrontation coincided with further disclosures over the scale of Saddam's hidden armoury of conventional, chemical and biological weapons, many made by Iraq using computer-assisted machine tools exported by Matrix Churchill and other companies.

UN inspectors are confident that Iraq's capability for making nuclear weapons has been dismantled. Similarly, most of the missiles imported from the former Soviet Union have been destroyed, although there are still five Scud launchers unaccounted for. The UN inspectors have, however, been less successful in locating the vast quantities of arms and munitions manufactured at Nassr and Huteen, equipped by Matrix Churchill and other companies.

Although large amounts of chemical weapons have been destroyed, UN inspectors have failed to find a stockpile of VX nerve gas, ten times more lethal than sarin. Very little of Iraq's biological weaponry has been located.

Baghdad yesterday agreed to postpone last night's deadline for seven remaining American arms experts to leave while the UN suspended reconnaissance flights by American-piloted U2 spy planes which Iraq had threatened to shoot down.

The atmosphere was "very positive" at a preliminary two-hour meeting with senior Iraqi officials, said Lakhdar Brahimi, a veteran troubleshooter from Algeria, who is leading a three-man UN delegation. They delivered a letter to Saddam from Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, conveying the Security Council's unanimous refusal to let Iraq discriminate against the inspectors.

UN envoys said that Tariq Aziz, the Deputy Prime Minister heading the Iraqi side, might be offered the chance to address the Security Council on Iraqi grievances next week, provided Saddam rescinds the ban on Americans. There must also be no challenge to reconnaissance flights.

However, the UN was forced to cancel weapons inspections for a third day after Iraq barred Americans from taking part, and it remained far from certain that the Iraqi leader would use the UN delegation to save face unless he is offered concessions.

Diplomats said that much would depend on whether Iraq presses two key demands, both apparently unacceptable to the UN. Saddam has called for a specific timetable for the lifting of the sweeping trade embargo in force since he sent troops to invade Kuwait in 1990. The UN is adamant that this cannot be done until there is proof that the Iraqi leader has come clean fully on his weapons of mass destruction. Before the defection in August 1995 of Hussein Kamel, Saddam's son-in-law, the UN had been on the verge of giving Iraq a clean bill of health. During subsequent debriefings, however, it became clear that he had orchestrated a massive deception to keep much of his armoury intact.

Baghdad also wants the UN to accept that Saddam's palaces must be out of bounds to weapons inspectors, insisting that searching them is a breach of Iraqi sovereignty. Saddam has nearly 80 palaces — one bigger than Versailles — 50 of which have been built at a cost of $2 billion (£1.2 billion) since sanctions were imposed seven years ago. His critics see them as ideal for concealing information and material.

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE

President Saddam's latest flirtation with danger, as seen by the cartoonist Heng in Singapore's *Lianhe Zaobao*

Left 'may attempt to avenge Rabin'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AN ISRAELI politician said yesterday that a left-wing extremist could try to kill Binyamin Netanyahu, the right-wing Prime Minister, because of increasing incitement against him in the run-up to next week's anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in 1995.

Naomi Blumenthal, a right-wing member of the Knesset, issued her warning as political tempers reached boiling point in advance of next week's ceremonies to mark the date, by the Hebrew calendar, on which Mr Rabin was shot dead by an ultra-right Jew who was opposed to his peace policy.

She spoke out after threats by Labour Knesset members to walk out of next Wednesday's special parliamentary session to mark the murder. The latest political uproar has concentrated attention on Mr Netanyahu's official visit to Britain next week, which is due to start less than 24 hours after the controversial Knesset session.

Britain to make more money available for poor nations

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Government is to reverse the decline in foreign aid and make more money available for the world's 20 poorest developing countries, Clare Short, Secretary for International Development, said yesterday.

Launching a policy White Paper that outlines the priorities of her newly formed department, the Secretary of State said that Britain had a duty to care about other people, especially those less well off than ourselves.

The greatest challenge facing the world was eliminating poverty, she said. Labour was committed to the United Nations target of halving by 2015 the proportion of people — numbering about 1.3 billion — living in extreme poverty. To do so, she reaffirmed the Government's promise to raise the amount of overseas aid until it reached the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product. At present, it is 0.27 per cent.

Ms Short said that if these issues were not addressed urgently, "there is a real danger that, by the middle of the next century, the world will not be sustainable".

She gave no details to Parliament or in the White Paper of how or when the extra money will be found. The Government is committed to retaining Conservative spending levels for the next two years. The White Paper argues: "Having done so, we can justify increasing our development assistance budget from 1999-2000."

She had an assurance from Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, that the money would be forthcoming. Speaking on BBC Radio Four's *Today* programme, she added: "Gordon and I have had this conversation. It's written down. I've said it in Parliament, I've said it in Cabinet. I've said it to Gordon — he keeps smiling at me."

Leading article, page 21

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TI.77

Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on hepatitis A, men's health problems, breast cancer and sleep patterns

Have a jab to avoid jaundice

It is not only the Conservative Party that is having a hard time because of Brussels. David Colvin, the British ambassador to Belgium, and his wife, Caroline, have been victims of a robbery, while Sir Stephen Wall, the permanent representative to the European Union, his wife, Catharine, his cook and at least one other staff member have contracted hepatitis A, known somewhat imprecisely as infectious jaundice or, more formally, as infective hepatitis.

Although Lady Wall was originally told that she had caught hepatitis from trailing her hand in the virus-laden waters of Chesapeake Bay, New England, and that she had then infected her husband, the real cause emerged when they returned from holiday and discovered that their Belgian cook had come down with the disease just after they had left for the United States. Hepatitis A is usually transmitted by urine or faeces, but can also be spread by blood and other body fluids — the ambassador's cook had cut her finger badly in July.

Once the patient has developed jaundice and other specific symptoms, the disease is becoming less infectious. The patient ceases to be infectious within a few days of developing symptoms and never becomes a carrier. Hepatitis A is nearly always spread through contaminated food or water, and food-borne epidemics are comparatively common.

It is likely that the Brussels outbreak spread from the cook to Catharine Wall and from her to her husband. The incubation period is variable — from about a fortnight to as much as six weeks. The other member of the staff who caught it probably did so from an (as yet) unidentified source, who never showed the classic symptoms. Even if they did notice, they probably thought they had nothing more than a case of flu or a "tummy upset". The majority of patients with hepatitis A, although infectious, do not become jaundiced.

Sir Stephen has drawn attention to the incidence of hepatitis A in the Second World War in the Far East. Although all ranks caught the disease, it was more common among officers who dined together and whose mess plates and cutlery were washed up communally than it was with the other ranks, who tended to cook their own food and had their own mess tins.

Sir Stephen has travelled around the world in the diplomatic service and has never caught hepatitis — even in such places as Ethiopia — and is therefore surprised that he has fallen prey to it in the heart of Europe.

The Belgian authorities have told him that the disease is on the increase in their country, as it is elsewhere in Europe, and that the Belgian Government is considering mass vaccination.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is straightforward and easy. Everyone who travels, particularly those going to exotic spots, or who dines in a lot of restaurants in this country should be inoculated. One vaccination, Twinrix, has proved to be effective against both hepatitis A and B.

Unlike the former — which, while causing victims to feel ill for a week or two and tired for some months, ends with the patient making a full recovery — the latter, transmitted by blood and other body fluids, is a potential killer. Research shows that hepatitis B is six times more prevalent in Britain than previous statistics suggested, and that the carrier rate is twice as high as was previously thought.

Last week, for instance, it was reported that an elderly man had died after having a hip operation in Bangor. It was later discovered that the surgeon who had performed the operation was a carrier of hepatitis B.

Those who want to avoid catching hepatitis B should not become too intimate with people from central Middlesex, Preston or Rhyl, and Gloucester and Ashford, in Kent, are not much better. It would be much safer to choose a close companion from Norwich or Exeter, where the incidence of the disease is low. In central Middlesex one in ten adults has been infected with hepatitis B, including one in six females aged between 35 and 44 and one in seven of males of a similar age. Approximately one in 25 males has been affected by hepatitis B in Gloucester, Rhyl or Ashford, and an appreciable proportion will continue to be infectious, and carriers.

Stephen Wall: hit by hepatitis

The emergence of the true numbers of patients in Britain who have had hepatitis B adds weight to the argument that aims to persuade Britain to adopt the World Health Organisation's recommendation to institute widespread vaccination. In Europe only Britain, Ireland and Scandinavia have yet to show enthusiasm for this scheme.

Meanwhile, those who travel *risk contracting hepatitis A,* and possibly hepatitis B, and are therefore advised to seek dual protection.

THE KOBAL COLLECTION

Feeling poorly: the male attitude to health is changing — a survey shows that they are now just as likely to tackle problems as women

Men do worry about illness

GALLUP, the market reseachers, have in conjunction with *Men's Health Matters* been sampling the adult male population of Great Britain to analyse their approach to health.

The interviewed sample was balanced for sex, age, class and such materialistic markers as car and home ownership. An equal number of women who had a regular partner or spouse were also questioned so that male and female attitudes could be compared.

Contrary to popular belief, men and women feel much the same about health and are equally concerned about it. It is no longer true that men are less conscientious about visiting their doctors, or seeking other medical advice.

Traditionally men have been reluctant to believe that they are ill because it affected their image of masculinity and vulnerability, and they therefore tended to cover up ill health until the symptoms made this impossible.

The Gallup poll shows that men's attitudes are changing. Men are now more likely to tackle their health problems adequately than they were in the past.

Fifty-two per cent will even visit their GP within one week of any worry arising. Seventy-one per cent of men, from right across the social board, said that they would like to see as much information in the press about men's health as there now is about women's, and 66 per cent of men would like a confidential health helpline.

● *Men's Health Matters: for confidential advice, ring 0181-995 4448.*

Screening vital for the older woman

WOMEN should not allow themselves to be discouraged from attending breast screening clinics because of the inability of a Devon hospital to achieve the results expected of it. Breast screening is a developing skill and the standard of accuracy now attained will surprise those who were involved with it in its early days.

Accuracy of diagnosis has always been dependent on the amount of experience and skill of the radiologist, together with the ability of the radiographers and the degree to which they have been taught to take good pictures. The diagnosis is much easier when there is a comparison with an earlier film. Women should, therefore, endeavour to be screened regularly.

There is considerable evidence that the present three-year gap between mammographies in the NHS screening programme is too long and allows detectable tumours to arise in the interval. There is also strong evidence that routine screening for breast cancer should be extended on the NHS to those over 65. Breast cancer is more common in the over-65s, and screening picks up well over twice as many tumours per thousand women examined in this age group than it does in those who are younger.

A report in a recent *Pulse* magazine shows that half of all breast cancers occur in the over-65s, and these account for 60 per cent of breast cancer deaths. All the evidence is that the survival time is dependent on the stage of the breast cancer at diagnosis, its pathology and treatment and not on the age of the patient.

Although older women are more likely to die of other causes while being treated *for breast cancer, there is a Swedish* study, which formed the basis of our own NHS screening programme, which showed that breast screening reduced mortality from malignant disease by 25-30 per cent in the under-65s, but by more than 40 per cent in the over-65s.

Not surprisingly, as they have received no encouragement, few women over 65 are screened by the NHS, but in places where it is encouraged, such as Guernsey, the uptake is much greater than among younger women. In Sweden more than 80 per cent of women between 65 and 74 are screened regularly.

THE lack of attention to NHS breast screening in older women has persuaded many of them that the risk of breast cancer diminishes with age. Nothing could be further from the truth. The older a woman is, the greater the hazard, and she badly needs the care which she can now get only if she asks for it.

● *Age Concern: 0181-679 8000. Breast Cancer Care (0500 245345) has just launched a leaflet,* Breast Cancer and the Older Woman: Exploding the Myths. *Copies are available from either organisation.*

Well-earned rest for truckers

THERE may be one small benefit to come out of the French truck drivers' blockade. The drivers, whether trapped in Kent or on the road in France, will have a chance to catch up on their sleep.

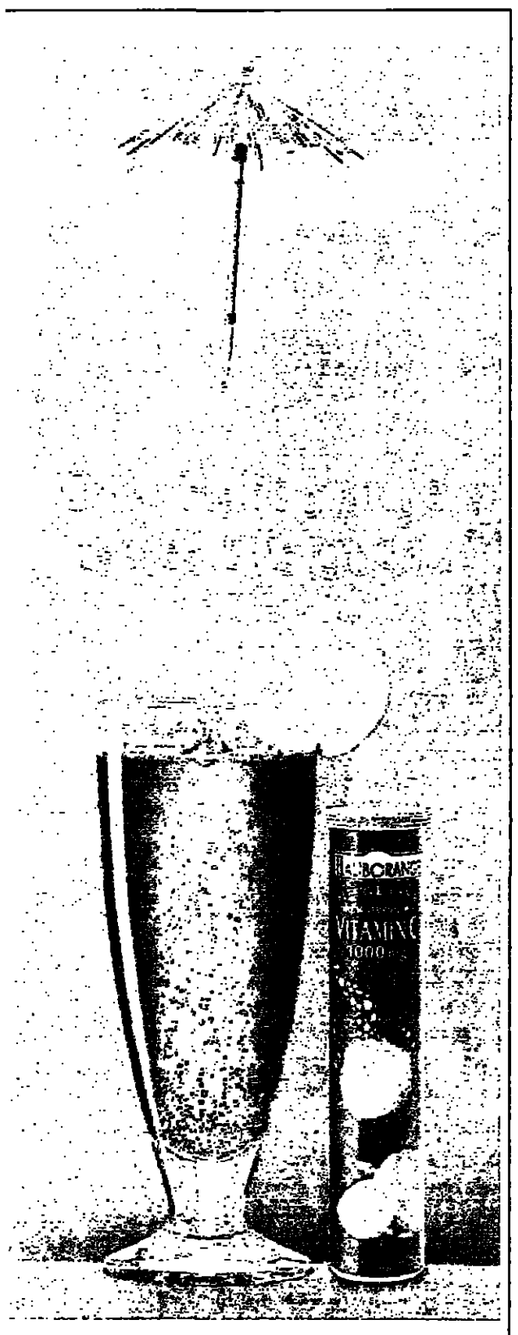
A recent study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and reviewed in *Monitor* magazine shows that the average truck driver needs 7.1 hours sleep a night but that when working for 24 hours, they achieve only 4.78 hours; when working day shifts they usually get 5.38 hours of sleep. Sleep deprivation is cumulative.

Forty per cent of the drivers supplemented their main sleep with additional naps, averaging 27 minutes a day. The truck drivers who took part in the resarch were watched in their cabins with videos, and their brainwaves were recorded with an electroencephalogram.

In the five days during which drivers were being monitored, two fell asleep at the wheel and 56 per cent had at least one period of extreme drowsiness.

Drivers were particularly vulnerable to drowsiness at the wheel between late night and early morning, and again in the afternoon between 2pm and 4pm.

There is increasing evidence that drowsiness when driving is a more frequent cause of road accidents than drunk driving.



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Why Enya won't go with the flow

The Irish singer sells millions of records, but has never performed in public. Interview by **Noreen Taylor**

If Enya passed you in the street, it is doubtful you would recognise her. Paparazzi do not stalk her. The tabloids ignore her. She has never performed in public, yet Enya is one of the biggest selling female stars of the Nineties, ranking alongside Madonna, Tina Turner and Whitney Houston.

Her haunting music — celestial choruses awash in swirling waves of Celtic mist — has been mocked by some critics as pretentious: global muzak with soul. But legions of fans across the world compare her work to a spiritual experience.

With two Grammy awards, a number one single, *Orinoco Flow*, and four albums having sold more than 33 million, no wonder her record company publicists describe her as one of the most successful female recording artists of all time.

Enya comes into the room shyly, quietly, a small woman of dark, delicate looks with a skin so white it's almost luminous, and offers her hand. No echoes of Madonna or Whitney-style flamboyance here. She is reassured to discover that we're from the same county in Ireland, Donegal. "Oh well, then," she laughs, and the alert straight-backed pose visibly relaxes.

"You know what a pull that place has on all of us. Flying back home from Dublin, over the mountains before the plane comes down, I realise that the landscape is always with me, in my head, in my music. I don't get home as often I'd like, only one day this year, but the beauty is very powerful. I don't think it ever leaves you. I go home every Christmas to sing in my mother's choir, catch up on all the gossip."

Is there a distance between her and the people back at home? "I can't say I'm aware of any awkwardness. Perhaps, at one time, I'd worry about name dropping. You know, mentioning places I'd been, people I'd met, but then I'd discover that they were as interested in my life as I was in theirs."

Enya was born in 1961, in Gweedore, part of Donegal's Gaelic-speaking area, to parents whose backgrounds were steeped in music. Her father, Leo Bhraonain, is a former band leader who now runs Leo's Tavern, a major Irish music venue, while her mother Maire, once the band vocalist, teaches music. It was from Leo's Tavern that the celebrated family group, Clannad, was formed.

"Two of my brothers, Pol and Ciaran, my sister Maire and two uncles were in the band. When I left school, where I'd been studying piano and classical music, I joined in with my keyboard, and did background vocals for two years."

There she could have remained, part of a successful Irish traditional music unit, except for the intervention of two people. Nicky Ryan, then Clannad's manager and his wife Roma, sensed a spark of that indefinable, almost mystical ingredient, that marked Enya out.

She finds it very difficult to talk about her abilities. Modesty plays a part, although it's impossible not to feel that all her responses, both verbal and physical, indicate a personality wrapped in layers of secrets.

> 'I am not suited to crowds and glitz'

"I come from a family of four brothers and four sisters, a large, protective group where a quiet moment would be very rare, and I suppose very early on I realised that I needed my own space from the chaos and the continual bustle. When I went to boarding school I found independence and privacy. I held on to that independence, musically, too, I suppose. My musical grounding came from the classics, although influences like church music, Irish reels and jigs are in there, too. At home, I remember sitting for hours at the piano experimenting with classical pieces I'd learnt.

"I talked about music to Nicky, whose influences came from people like the Beatles and the Beach Boys and who had these ideas about layering vocals, about painting audio landscapes with music.

"Roma, who knew about Irish mythology, told stories, wrote poetry and had this special feeling for lyrics. Then, in what seemed like a very natural sort of development, I moved in with them, lived in their house in Dublin where they had built a small studio, and went back to studying piano again. It was wonderful having those two people who believed in me and encouraged me to take risks."

The Ryans' gamble paid off. They no longer work in a tiny studio tacked on to the back of their house, but in a state-of-the-art recording laboratory overlooking the Wicklow mountains. The Ryans and Enya enjoy a remarkable relationship.

"Oh yes, when I talk about the music I always refer to 'we'. I write the melody, play piano, keyboards, sing the vocals. Roma writes the lyrics. Nicky arranges, creates the layers of overtracking. I don't have to explain anything to them. They feel the music. It's so intuitive, as though Roma knows what I'm feeling when she hears a melody."

Recalling the start of their success story, she says: "It was through Roma that we got to do the music for David Putnam's film *The Frog Prince* and then the soundtrack for the BBC series, *The Celts*.

"The three of us can be locked up in the studio five days a week for up to two years doing an album. I begin a melody, then wait, see where it's going to take me. The music can't be rushed. I'm a perfectionist. Without Nicky I'd be there for ever. So I've learnt now to stop going over and over compositions, and when he says, it's finished, let it go, I trust him.

"For a long time afterwards, I close the door on the finished work, I won't listen to it. Just can't. Too anxious. I sit back and think, who's going to listen to this? Is there an audience? Every time I start a new album, it's like the first time. The success of the other albums doesn't count, doesn't make it any easier, somehow it's as if it's too much to live up to. People assume success makes you confident. It doesn't. It creates new demands. I've made a lot of sacrifices for my work."

Like love, a husband, children? She responds with a shy smile, and when pressed admits: "I've always tried to make it clear that my work comes first, that I need my space. Finding a man who can adapt to me? I haven't met one. Describe me as a woman who is very single. I like living alone, and relationships have always clashed with my lifestyle. It's just too difficult."

I suggest that like many successful women of her generation, she can no longer widen the frame to include a partner, and that may be she fears the lack of control inherent within marriage and motherhood? Then again, perhaps she's never been swept off her feet?

"Perhaps," she says with a teasing smile. "There could be an element of fear, knowing that no one has yet understood my strong will, my need. You see, music is something I've got to do. The idea of coming back home and having to talk to someone after hours in the studio when I'm spent, exhausted, I can't imagine being able to do that, being able to cut myself in two — switching from one role to another. As for children, I've enough nieces and nephews to fill that gap."

There are other rewards. Enya's new home is Killiney Castle, a 19th-century cliff-top fortress looking out over Dublin Bay. "I've always loved castles, thought them magical places, and now I have one of my own. The rooms are not enormous, which is lovely because it's quite homely for a castle. It was love at first sight, the instant I walked through the door, I went wow! This is it!"

The splendid, grey-stoned house, in its fairytale setting, seems an appropriate backdrop for someone described as a reclusive, rather solitary figure. "Well, I suppose people use those terms because I don't tour and the only time the public sees me is when I'm doing signings in record shops. There has never been time to tour. That's the simple truth, although Nicky is thinking we might arrange a concert in one of Dublin's cathedrals soon.

"I'm not part of the party circuit. The studio drains all my energy and imagination, and anyway, by temperament I'm not suited to crowds and glitz. Lately I've been more relaxed, gone out to dinner parties, the theatre, so I'm getting better, loosening up. I know music has taken up my life, but that's been my choice."

● Paint The Sky With Stars, *an album of Enya's classic songs, including two new compositions, is released this week by WEA Records*

MICHAEL POWELL

"People assume success makes you confident. It doesn't. It creates new demands. I've made a lot of sacrifices"

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Drugs — an everyday story

Bridget Harrison on a report that does away with stereotypes

AT LAST someone is talking sense about the way in which recreational drugs are used in Britain. A study by the independent think-tank Demos — whose director, Geoff Mulgan, advises Tony Blair — says that young people who use such drugs are far removed from the stereotypical image of a generation of deviants and junkies.

This may cause embarrassment to the Government and its newly appointed drugs tsar, Keith Hellawell, but will come as no surprise to many.

Slogans such as "War on Drugs" and "Just Say No", have become almost a joke in a culture in which drug references are so obvious that they are hardly noticed.

For most who go to bars, night clubs, festivals or parties, contact with drugs such as ecstasy, cocaine, speed and cannabis is as normal as contact with the opposite sex. This is not to say that anyone who sets foot in a bar will automatically swallow a pill. With acceptance comes choice — much like deciding what to wear for an evening, or whether to drink vodka or orange juice.

This summer, I drove to a wedding with two lawyers and a film director — all in their twenties, with successful careers. They talked about presents for the bride and groom and whether anyone might turn up with some Es. Someone did, and several of the wedding party danced more than everyone else and were awake to see the dawn. The rest of us left them to it.

I have attended dinner parties when cocaine has been brought instead of a good bottle of wine. The idea that the person bringing it was a deviant, a criminal or likely to ruin his or her life simply did not arise.

The real issue for the million or so "deviants" who use drugs every weekend, just as "normal" people use alcohol or cigarettes, is access to information on the substances they are taking. If I buy a pill, what does it actually contain? If I am offered cocaine, what is it cut with? How can I avoid drugs altogether? It is questions such as these that drug users want the answers to. Mr Hellawell's response to the Demos report is to welcome "further insight" into drug misuse. If he wishes to understand the problem of drugs, the first step is for him to understand the people who take them.

TOMORROW

Media: Channel 4 chief Michael Jackson talks to Raymond Snoddy

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Honourable friends and federalists

Norman Lamont says Ken Clarke despises Parliament — in private

Many years ago when Ken Clarke and I were young frontbenchers in Mrs Thatcher's team, he and I had an argument about Europe. Although my scepticism was not as developed as it is today, my views were definitely less Europhile than Ken's. Even then I was worried about the direction in which Europe was going. Ken disagreed. I remember his words to this day: "The sooner the House of Commons becomes a county council the better." I remember those words because they did somewhat shock me. I have often reflected on them, but never referred to them until now.

I have known Ken Clarke for more than 30 years, since we were both student politicians together at Cambridge. I have always thought of him as a European federalist. He denies this. On one occasion when he was Chancellor he declared, in the House of Commons, there were no federalists at all in the Conservative Party. I was puzzled by this. I knew many people who I thought would be quite happy to be described as federalists. If there were no federalists in the Conservative Party, why was there such an outcry when Michael Portillo at the time of Emma Nicholson's defection suggested that all federalists should leave the Conservative Party?

Does all this matter? Isn't this semantics? When Ken Clarke says he is not in favour of a federal Europe, perhaps he means he is in favour of unification, but not along explicitly federal lines. What would that be? A unitary centralised Europe? That would be even more alarming than a federalised Europe.

Michael Heseltine is a man I greatly like, although I disagree with his views. He also says he is not a federalist, although he has been franker than most. When he was previously on the backbenches and wrote a book (*The Challenge of Europe: Can Britain Win?*), he said: "We have federalism by stealth, whether because national electorates cannot be told the truth, or are not trusted to understand it, or because their elected leaders have failed to comprehend what they have assented to."

Ken Clarke and Michael Heseltine are rightly described as big beasts. I vividly recall sitting with them on Black Wednesday. I wanted to get the pound out of the ERM. So did the Bank of England. But for Michael and Ken, Europe came first. They insisted interest rates were increased to 15 per cent, when all the time speculators were coming to the Bank of England to dump pounds. Like the Bourbons, they have learnt nothing from history. In their world, you remove the possibility of a run on the pound by abolishing the pound.

They were prepared then to pay a very high price to remain within the ERM. Today they seem equally determined that the Conservative Party should pay a very high price if it is not prepared to leave open the option of joining the single currency.

I do not dispute their right to disagree with party policy, even though they used their position to discourage dissent. Today we have a new, democratically elected leader of the party. He has made it clear that one of his objections to the single currency is the constitutional consequences. In these circumstances we are entitled to ask them to be clear about the constitutional consequences of the single currency.

Karl Issing, the Chief Economist of the Bundesbank, has said that there is no example in history of a single currency not tied to a single state. Hans Tietmayer, head of the Bundesbank, has on several occasions made clear that he believes that the single currency will very much diminish the freedom of individual governments to set their own taxes. When I once put this to Kenneth Clarke in a debate in the House of Commons he remarked that the Bundesbank did not speak for Chancellor Kohl. I could have quoted to him what Herr Kohl said in a newspaper interview in September 1995: "We want the political unification of Europe. If there is no monetary union there cannot be political union and vice versa."

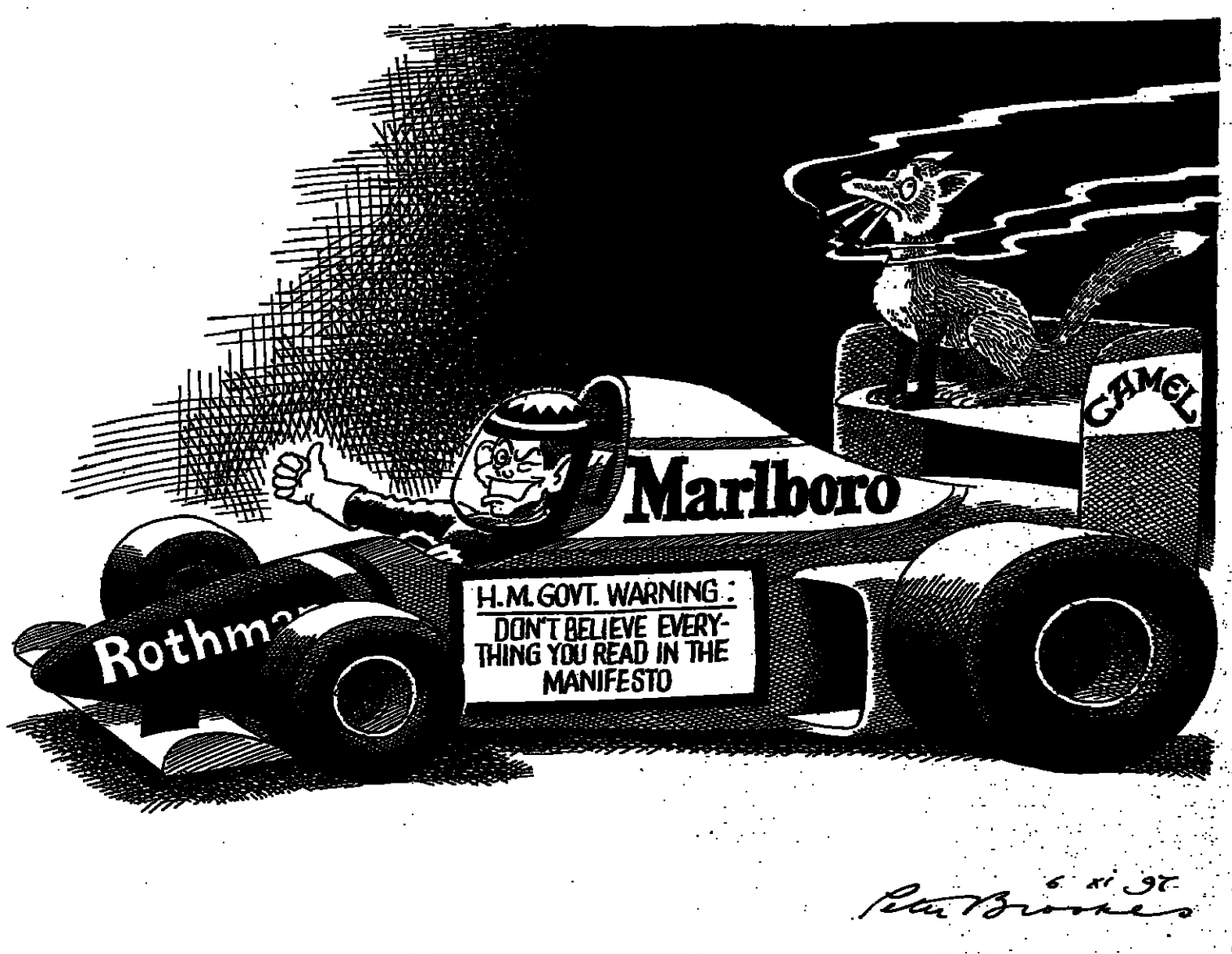
I have debated the issue of the single currency many times with politicians, and in the last few weeks with both Helmut Schmidt and Giscard d'Estaing, the founding fathers of monetary union. What always strikes me is how much more open European politicians are in admitting in public that economic and monetary union will lead to political unification. Last week I heard Giscard d'Estaing say in New York that the single currency would require a common tax system.

Michael Heseltine simply refers to alleged business views, says a single currency is going to happen, and that Britain will be part of it. The logic of his position is, if the Europeans want an overt political union, Britain must join.

Ken Clarke denies that a single currency will lead to a common European tax system. Even if theoretically possible, it is not what Continental politicians believe or want. Even before the single currency has been created, the European Commission never stops issuing plans for tax harmonisation. Controls on borrowing and spending will drive them further in this direction. A common tax system will then require an economic government, as French politicians repeatedly point out. That was why Norman Tebbit said Britain in a monetary union would end up as a "rate-capped local authority" — a view wholly consistent with Ken Clarke's "county council".

Today Ken Clarke and Michael Heseltine launch their Mainstream organisation. Let's have an open and honest debate about this. It is their duty as elected Members of Parliament to tell us openly what the political consequences of monetary union are. If they are not Eurofederalists, they should state exactly where they would set the limits to Britain's involvement in the process of European integration.

The author was Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1990-93.



Sweet and sour portions

The economy is riding high now — but Blair must beware of a dangerous downturn by the next election

William Rees-Mogg

In the United States there is a folk-saying that voters get a slump when they elect Republican Presidents and a war when they elect the Democrats. There is some truth in this. The most difficult economic shocks, the panic of 1907, the slump of the early 1930s, and the inflation of the early 1970s did, indeed, occur under Republican Presidents; the four great wars the United States has have fought in the 20th century, the two world wars, Korea and Vietnam, all began when Democrats were in the White House.

There is no similar folk-saying about wars in British politics; the Liberals were in power when war broke out in 1914, and the Conservatives in 1939. But there is a similar observation about the Labour Party and the economy. All five of the earlier Labour administrations ended with unemployment higher than it was when they started. The Labour Party wins elections at times of comparative prosperity, and then has to deal with the consequence of the economy boiling over. This is not a perfectly constant pattern. It fits the 1929 and 1964 victories quite well, but 1924 was too short to count; 1945 saw the end of wartime full employment, though employment remained high until 1951; while in 1974 the economy had already boiled over after the Heath-Barber boom.

Nevertheless, as Tony Blair is well aware, the Labour Party has never achieved two full terms in office, and has repeatedly become unpopular because of cyclical pressures on the economy. Perhaps the Government's biggest fear is that this will happen again, and that it will be struggling with the downturn of the economic cycle at the time it has to win re-election in 2001 or 2002. Such a change could also affect voters' attitudes to the referendum on the single currency, which Gordon Brown has promised for early in the next Parliament. If the Conservatives win the next election, which might happen as a result of an economic downturn, there would be no entry to the single currency, and therefore no referendum. If Labour still wins but economic conditions are bad, that could nudge people into wanting to join, or more likely, could fatally weaken the authority of the Government's support for a single-currency proposal.

Professor Tim Congdon has made a long-term forecast based on a new theory of the nature of the business cycle. He believes that increases in the growth of the money supply push actual output above the trend line of output growth. This starts the familiar cycle of boom and slump around a long-term trend line which one sees in most economic activities. At present the money supply is running at around 10 per cent growth, which is too high to be compatible with stable prices.

Professor Congdon describes four stages of this cycle. In the first phase, which the British economy experienced in the period 1992 to 1994, output is below the trend level, inflation is falling, and a more expansionist monetary and budget policy is put in place. In phase two, output is rising from below to above the trend line; the so-called "output gap" is eliminated, and inflation starts to rise, though it rises only slowly so long as any output gap remains. In phase three, the acceleration of inflation reaches an unacceptable rate and there is a slowing of growth as output outstrips capacity. The Government will then be trying to cut back growth with higher interest rates and higher taxes.

In phase four, the recession comes, output declines back below the trend line, and inflation falls. There may be an actual fall in output, while asset prices will decline. Professor Congdon publishes a graph which shows this sequence of events repeating itself from 1965 to the present day. In 1997, the British economy is still in the relatively comfortable second phase, with output having reached the trend line, but not yet significantly broken through it, and with somewhat higher interest rates.

So far, this is a reasonably familiar cyclical theory, though with special attention to fluctuations around the long-term trend of output. The most significant observation is that inflation can be explained better by the level of the output gap than by the changes in output. Provided it is below the trend line, the economy can expand quite fast without inflation. Once it is above the trend line, inflation rises, even if it is no longer expanding rapidly.

This cycle produces two exceptional economic conditions, which Professor Congdon calls the "sweet spot" and the "sour spot". In the sweet spot, the economy is expanding quite rapidly, but is still at or below the trend line. There is little inflationary pressure, despite above average growth. In the sour spot, output is above the trend line, but has to be brought back below it. Then there is low growth, or none at all, and inflationary pressure remains quite high. In recent history, Nigel Lawson's boom created a sweet spot in 1987-88; that was followed by a very sour spot in 1990-92; the next sour spot is expected by Professor Congdon to occur in 1999-2000, though he observes that the timing of the different phases does vary.

"Over the last year output growth has undoubtedly been above its trend rate. If above — trend growth continues, the positive output gap may reach over 1 per cent of GDP and could move up to the 2 per cent or more figures seen as some previous cyclical peaks. If so, quite a nasty sour spot might follow, say in 1999 or 2000, with inflation returning to over 4 per cent and possibly to 5 per cent. A period of beneath-trend growth would be necessary to bring inflation back down to the 2.5 per cent official target." When one reads this, one should remember that Professor Congdon, who was one of the economic advisers to the last Government, has an exceptionally good record as a forecaster.

In 1992, the Conservatives under John Major were able to win an unexpected election victory despite the sour spot. Does that mean that elections are no longer decided by the business cycle?

Can Labour still win comfortably even if there is a sour spot in the year 2000? The historic association between Labour coming in on a boom and going out in a recession suggests not.

Perhaps people vote Labour when they feel economically confident, but have a long term doubt whether Labour knows how to maintain prosperity. A sour spot at the time of the next election could revive old suspicions, which go back to the 1930s or beyond. Labour cannot afford a repetition of having come in on a sweet spot and gone out on a sour one.

The Congdon analysis shows that Brown — or Blair — was right to reject entry to the single currency in 1999. It could have produced the same result as Nigel Lawson's shadowing of the mark in the 1980s — lower interest rates and further expansion of an economy already expanding too fast. If the sour spot in 1999-2000 is not to be too damaging, the next two years of expansion need to be kept under control. Obviously a reduction of interest rates to EU levels would be dangerous.

Yet the British and European business cycles are unlikely to be synchronised even by 2001 or 2002. By then British output may be falling below trend. If so, it will be right to have a somewhat more expansionary policy. But the European cycle is currently lagging about three or four years behind ours; the European core countries are now at the stage Britain was in during the period 1993-94, a stage of early recovery. By 2002, the interest rates appropriate to Britain, in what could then be the later part of a cyclical recession, might be quite inappropriate to a European economy in the later stages of a boom. I do not think anyone knows how to realign business cycles so that different economies will benefit from the same level of interest rates.

The warning is an important one. The Labour Party is still riding high in the polls; most people expect Labour to win the next election quite easily; many people expect that to create a favourable momentum for the single currency referendum. If Tim Congdon is right — and he often is — the economic climate in four years' time could be much less favourable than it is now. That would inevitably change the political climate as well.

Professor Congdon's paper, "Inflation is not dead", appears in November's Lombard Street Research Monthly Economic Review.

Are the Scots on the take?

Magnus Linklater calls for more clarity over subsidies

As you drive north from Edinburgh up the M90, over the Forth Road Bridge, you come across an altered landscape. New hills have been contoured, the motorway itself has been rebuilt, an industrial complex lies, prettily concealed, below the horizon. Above it, stark against the sky, huge letters proclaim: Hyundai Semi-Conductors. It is the biggest plant of its kind in Europe. Drive the other way, towards Glasgow, and the same thing happens. Here the factory sprawl is even larger — almost a new town it seems — served by a complex of slip-roads: this is Chungwa Picture Tubes from Korea.

These are just the latest and most obvious signs of a remarkable success story, one that has brought Scotland — and Wales — the lion's share of some colossal investment from the Far East and America. In Scotland alone it amounts to some £6 billion in five years, bringing 60,000 jobs.

At last, you might think, genuine proof that we have acquired that most un-British of qualities, the ability to market ourselves abroad. That assumption, however, has been rudely challenged. Sir George Russell, the blunt-speaking industrialist who is among other things Chairman of Camelot and the Independent Television Commission, accuses Scotland and Wales, in effect, of cheating. Over the years, he claims, they have used the generous government subsidies they have received as poorer regions of the UK to lure foreign companies away from places such as the North East. His particular resentment is reserved for the so-called Barnett formula which, he claims, gives Scotland a higher proportion of public spending than English regions, despite its recent growth in prosperity. Scotland, he says, "may be ... now actually wealthier than any English region apart from the South East." But it is still using the extra subsidy it receives under the Barnett formula to "gazump" less well-heeled parts of the country. "The Barnett formula," he concludes, "is no longer necessary or just."

Sir George's timing was immaculate. Tony Blair, himself a northern MP, has asked for a solution to what he sees as the problem of "bidding wars" between the regions. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, wants to centralise the lobbying for inward investment. Even Lord Barnett himself — formerly Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury — who introduced the formula in 1978, reckons the time has come to reassess the whole procedure.

He is probably right. But not necessarily for the right reasons. The Barnett formula has nothing to do with subsidising foreign investors, a process tightly controlled by the Regional Selective Assistance system which applies throughout the UK. Nor does it in itself give the Scots a higher proportion of public spending. That advantage was won long before it came into existence by a succession of table-thumping Scottish Secretaries, the most notable of whom was Willie Ross, who, in the 1960s and 1970s, insisted that Scotland, deprived of its heavy industries, needed extra help. He was probably right. His successors have done the same, with such Tories as George Younger being the most successful.

It does, however, allow the Scottish Secretary a large degree of freedom of choice in allocating his budget; hence Sir George Russell's frustration and the hostility of successive Treasury ministers. It is also surprisingly difficult to define, like the Schleswig Holstein Question, of which Lord Palmerston said that only three people understood it — one of whom was dead, one mad, and the third — himself — who had forgotten.

What Barnett did in 1978 was apply a formula which would quantify the extra spending rather than having it renegotiated every time. He fixed it on an estimate of Scotland's population in 1977. Since then, it has changed slightly as the population has shrunk. Michael Portillo was the last to recalibrate it. It does not, however, cover all public expenditure in Scotland, only the 60 per cent or so that the Scottish Office controls. It applies only to changes in spending on programmes like education, health, housing and roads. And although it does give Scots a higher proportion per head of spending, possibly as much as 25 per cent, that was always intended to converge in time.

The convergence has, admittedly, taken far longer than anyone calculated. Hence the need for a reassessment. We need to know whether Scotland, with its remote areas, its expensive rural road system and its pockets of high unemployment, still qualifies for extra support. That calculation has to take in all the UK regions. What, for instance, about the deprived South West?

What it should not do is become part of a campaign against Scottish or Welsh autonomy — the "beginnings of the English backlash" as it has been described. The first thing to do is analyse the figures, and see if they are still fair. Then, and only then, begin to readjust them. Before attacking something it is always as well to understand what on earth it is that you are attacking.

Slow coach

THE LAST, lonely relic of empire, where Napoleon sulked out his final days, is to be treated to its first ministerial visit in 300 years. George Foulkes, International Development Minister, will appease restless natives in St Helena when he swings by shortly. The remote British dependency lies in squally South Atlantic seas, 5,000 miles south of Cornwall. Its 6,000 residents are less used to garlanded visitors than to gloomy poverty and isolation — relieved only, Foulkes should be warned, by Lion beer. Explorer's note: It takes ten days by boat and plane.

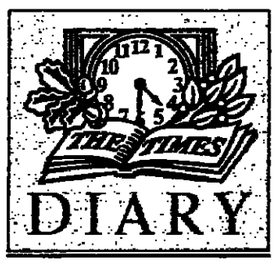
The inhabitants — called "Saints" — have been stripped of British citizenship. Lord Iveagh has introduced a Bill to reverse this and locals are making a fuss.

So Foulkes, who once managed eight fact-finding trips in a year, earning him the title the Honourable Member for Flying Visits, has instructed officials to find him the quickest way to get there. With no airstrip on St Helena, he plans to fly to Cape Town and then make the four-day trip by sea to become the first such emissary since the East India Company claimed the island in 1659.

Once at the Governor's mansion, the congenial Foulkes should avoid the fate of Napoleon — reputedly poisoned by arsenic in the wallpaper of his villa-in-exile. The mansion acquired the island's first TV in 1995.

Visitors: Foulkes and Napoleon

● *Tony Banks, speaking at a gay pub on Tuesday night, was asked which part of his body he would pierce. "The bit that doesn't hurt," he replied. "Through my brain."*



Choppy waters

PLANS for a new regal vessel have not sunk after all. Representatives of the Britannic Project, who saw their plan to build a new yacht come to naught, have held a private meeting with Geoffrey Robinson, Paymaster General, to discuss a startlingly similar proposal.

"We have a guaranteed £300 million to build a cruise vessel to rival the QE2," says Britannic's Peter Robbins. "It will be known as the national flagship and we will offer it to the Royal Family and the Government to use for 40 days a year." But Robinson said he would need proof of the financial backing. The GEC Marine shipbuilding plant in Barrow is ready. Another obstacle is convincing the Royal Family that the vessel will meet their requirements. "It will need royal quarters to be the Ship of State," says Robbins. How brave is the Royal Family feeling?

● *BOTTOMS UP to that old survivor, Lord King of Wartnaby, master of the skies. His wife Lorna organised a surprise bash for him in Mayfair last night and Baroness Thatcher made a speech. Tactfully, she resisted raising her pet subject: British Airways' new tailfins.*

Bare cheek

STRIPPAGRAMS are considered outré in new Labour circles. But not by Keith Vaz, MP. The PPS had been fretting about how to celebrate the 66th birthday of his boss, the Attorney-General, John Morris. After much Biro-nibbling he had an idea: a strippagram should be hired to turn up at Morris's Buckingham Gate office and bare all. One of Vaz's Commons chums knew a suitable girl, naturally. Problem. The stripper works by day as a traffic-warden, over which profession the Attorney-General has some control. "The Solicitor-General, Lord Falconer, vetoed it," says a deflated Vaz. "We got Lord Merlyn-Rees to present him with a portrait instead." How sensible.

"That's the new budget"

● *HOW these Tories love each other. Virginia Bottomley and Sir Peter Tapsell, Tory grandee, have been fighting over Tony Benn's old seat on the Opposition benches. The two have been arriving earlier and earlier in an attempt to snatch the seat. Yesterday Ginnie was in by 7.30am, only to find that Sir Peter had already placed his prayer card. "He won because he's younger and more energetic than me," allowed Mrs B. "At least he turned up with the newspapers and allowed me to read them."*

So vein

CAVORTING in corsets on Merchant Ivory filmsets has done little to enhance the physique of the actress Helena Bonham Carter: she has developed varicose veins. The problem set in 12 years ago while filming *A Room with a View*. "Thad to have my varicose veins out at 19," she tells me. "I think the corsets accelerated the process. I now know I don't have to be in every period film." Thank God.

Helena: costume drama

JASPER GERARD

SHORT ON SPECIFICS

Unrealistic targets flaw the White Paper on aid

Wise governments husband their credibility. They do not promise to do things which ordinary people know to be manifestly beyond their power. Clare Short's White Paper on Britain's aid policies contains a great deal that makes sense — particularly where it builds on the work done by her admirable predecessor at development, Baroness Chalker of Wallasey. Her most concrete decision, the ending of the Aid and Trade Provision which helps British exporters to win contracts in the name of aid, shuts down the slush fund that financed the Pergau Dam in Malaysia and which damages Britain's reputation for effective aid policies.

The greater pity, then, that the title she has given the paper, *Eliminating World Poverty*, fails the credibility test at the start. There are now 1.3 billion people who subsist on the equivalent of a dollar a day, 23 per cent of the world's population. Even if that proportion were halved by 2015, as the White Paper promises, population growth would still leave 900 million "absolutely poor". But that is not the limit of Ms Short's ambitions. She has invented a whole new series of universal "human rights", including "the right to continuous improvements of living conditions . . . social protection . . . just and favourable conditions of work . . . and family life". By these tests, which muddle goals with rights, who is not poor?

The problem with "poverty elimination", as distinct from the laudable desire to reduce the incidence of extreme poverty, goes beyond the numbers game. To set such a goal greatly over-estimates what international aid, which is only a tiny fraction of financial flows, can achieve. Foreign aid can never do more than make a marginal, though potentially important, difference to the prospects of people in poor countries. To insist on a central role for "pro-poor" policies, as the White Paper does, is also to ignore one of the clearest lessons of the past 40 years. This is that aid aimed at the very poorest almost always misses its target, whereas raising overall income through rapid growth increases the choices available to everybody. The White Paper itself acknowledges that "without growth — with stagnant or even declining incomes — the poor will only be able to make insignificant improvements in their livelihoods at the expense of other poor people". But this wisdom is buried in the small print, and is qualified by references to "poverty focused objectives".

This is not the only aspect of the White Paper to fail the reality check. Ms Short appears to have succumbed to the aid industry's most contagious disease, targetitis. She has shouldered a laundry-basket full of United Nations goals, all to be achieved by 2015 — a two-thirds reduction in infant mortality rates; universal access to primary education and health care; and environmentally sound policies in every country. She has also committed Britain to more than doubling its aid, to 0.7 per cent of GNP — which she claims to have convinced Gordon Brown will be done within this Parliament. This is the hoariest of all UN targets, and when so much existing aid is misdirected or abused, Ms Short's priority should be to improve the quality, rather than the quantity, of such assistance.

The greatest defects are found not in Britain's bilateral aid, which accounts for less than half the total aid budget, but in the mismanaged UN and European Union aid programmes to which Britain contributes heavily. The White Paper commits Britain to "enhanced" support for the UN's development activities — without a word about the need for UN agencies to show that these provide value for money. Ms Short could usefully consult the Danish Government, which has attached rigorous conditions to funds for UN aid programmes. Ms Short dislikes "conditionality", preferring cosier words like "partnership". She will discover its uses before long; being tough on the causes of poverty means being tough with the elites, in international bureaucracies and national governments, whose hearts bleed so much less easily than her own.

CURRENCY OF BUSINESS

The Government should be sceptical of CBI claims for EMU

If the Church of England used to be the Tory party at prayer, the Confederation of British Industry was the Tory party at business. Over the past year, however, its allegiance has switched to Labour and not entirely out of political opportunism. The issue of the single currency has allegedly soured big business's relations with the Conservatives. Now Adair Turner, head of the CBI, predicts that the rift will continue for ten years, the period in which the Tories have promised to oppose Britain's membership of the euro.

Big companies are not united in their fervour for EMU. CBI surveys of its members usually show a small majority in favour, but nothing like unanimity. Indeed, one of the most vociferous EMU-sceptics, Sir Stanley Kalms of Dixons, is on the CBI Council. And of those companies that express enthusiasm, most are not keen to join straightaway, but only if the economic conditions seem right.

Fluctuations in exchange rates are a clear problem for businesses. They lead either to uncertainty or to extra costs if companies decide to hedge against the exchange-rate movements. But these costs are not huge, usually a few percentage points of the total export contract. If all their trading could be done in one currency, there would of course be savings; but Europe's single currency would not spare them from the fluctuations of dollar or yen. And what businesses often fail to recognise is the possible adverse effect on their profits of Britain sharing a common interest rate as well as a common currency.

This blindness is surprising, since most must remember the horrors of the ERM when, for at least two years, British interest rates had to be far higher than the domestic economy demanded. The result was a steep fall in demand, turning profits into losses and causing widespread bankruptcies and high unemployment. Entry to the ERM was cheered by the CBI.

In a single currency, unlike the ERM, there would be no escape from such a quandary. And a government in this position would not even be able to relax fiscal policy to compensate for the tight monetary policy. The stability pact would preclude such a move. So the economy could spend years in recession, which would be a disaster for British business.

Why, then, does the Government feel under so much pressure from business to join EMU? Mainly because the CBI is campaigning so hard for it. Yet CBI members are not wholly behind the stance of their organisation. Business leaders are, on the whole, pragmatic people. Few are likely to be against membership of EMU in principle, for ever. It is not surprising that the majority of them want Britain to join if the conditions are right: for any pragmatist, assent to that proposition amounts to a tautology.

Only 28 per cent in the last survey wanted Britain to join in 1999. And that is the only meaningful question to ask in order to ascertain real enthusiasm for the project. Until a "clear and unambiguous" (to borrow a phrase) majority of big businesses is keen to join a single currency as soon as possible, ministers should take what the CBI says with a pinch of salt.

NEW YORK, NEW ORDER

American lessons for both Hague and Blair

The decisive re-election of Rudolph Giuliani as Mayor of New York represents the triumph of performance and policy over party and personality. The mayor is a Republican, which is hardly an asset in a city where fewer than one in ten voters are registered supporters of that party. Mr Giuliani has compensated for the absence of a natural electorate, partly by governing in a manner that defies conventional labels. He endorsed the unsuccessful bid of the incumbent Democrat, Mario Cuomo, in the New York Governors' contest three years ago, and only reluctantly backed Bob Dole last year.

His personality does not endear him to New Yorkers. Mr Giuliani is seen even by his fans as tough to the point of being mean. He has none of the slickness that brings success in American politics. That, though, has proved irrelevant. The mayor has been exceptionally effective. A city that once appeared to court the description "ungovernable" is in vastly better condition than when he was first elected. On that basis his powerful showing is what he deserved.

The Giuliani formula is one familiar in many American states and cities. Crime, which had reached epidemic proportions, has been tackled with the radical new policing strategy of "Zero Tolerance". Its tough approach to what was once seen as minor crime has reduced all categories of offences. The once enormous welfare clientele of the city has been sharply cut by a new emphasis on work. Taxes have come down from their crippling heights. As a result, New York has become a more secure city in all senses.

The other significant elections on Tuesday night confirmed similar trends. In New Jersey, Governor Christie Whitman narrowly won re-election. She had delivered on her pledge to slash state income tax by 30 per cent. Her margin was so close because property and other taxes remain at unpopular levels. In Virginia, Jim Gilmore will succeed his fellow Republican, George Allen, as Governor. His victorious campaign was based almost entirely on ending the state's burdensome taxes on vehicles. He was also seen as the more determined on crime and welfare reform. The continued salience of these key issues augurs well for Republicans in next November's congressional elections.

Both main parties in Britain have become accustomed to seeking political ideas from the United States. There are lessons here for William Hague and Tony Blair. The Conservatives might be inspired to draw examples from Republican governors and mayors, rather than Newt Gingrich and his *Contract with America*. Labour would be wise to reconsider how tightly to embrace the Clinton Administration. The President has associated himself with populist stances on crime, tax and welfare. He has done so largely because his Republican opponents left him with little option. Mr Blair would doubtless like to be regarded as a tough, effective, moderate. If so, he should indeed look west — but to New York not Washington.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Masons on Bench must be identified

From the Chairwoman of the Association of Women Barristers

Sir, Complaints by senior judges that they would find a compulsory register of Freemasons "offensive" and "an infringement of privacy and of freedom of association" (report, November 3) deserve examination.

The difference between judicial office and private practice is that the incumbent wields the power and authority of the State — indeed, of the Sovereign.

Taking first the charge of offensiveness: subjective reaction is not an argument. The question is whether this proposal is in the public interest. We submit that the status quo is damaging to public confidence in the judiciary. It is not good enough for the judiciary to say, in effect: "Trust us: if we are tempted towards bias we will let you know."

The charge that privacy would be infringed neglects the fact that the European Convention on Human Rights contains a public-interest exception, which I suggest would clearly apply.

The argument that freedom of association would be infringed is wholly bad, since the Home Affairs Select Committee did not recommend that the judiciary be prohibited from membership. The issue is whether a litigant is entitled to know if a particular judge belongs to a society whose members are pledged to assist one another. It is, I suggest, a worthwhile requirement in order to ensure that litigants can see the judge's loyalty to justice has no competitor.

For that reason, *inter alia*, this association's submissions to the select committee recommended compulsory disclosure of membership; and many people, both within the legal profession and elsewhere, especially women, expressed support for our stand.

Judges apparently argue that they have to deal with conflicts of interest in any case. But if, as you report, the need for compulsory declaration has been accepted in relation to non-judical parts of the criminal justice system, for example the police, then *a fortiori* it applies to the judiciary, in view of their greater power over prosecutions.

Is it suggested that there will be large-scale resignations from the judiciary if disclosure of masonic membership is made compulsory? That improbable prospect can be faced without fear: their places can quickly be filled from the large pool of talent in our legal profession, including under-represented groups such as women and ethnic minorities.

Yours sincerely,
J. M. HAYES, Chairwoman,
The Association of Women Barristers,
3 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
November 3.

From Dr Edward M. A. Willhoft

Sir, You report that senior judges are arguing a special case for avoiding becoming listed in the register of Freemasons because it "would encourage litigants to seek judges they thought might be more sympathetic to their cause". Well really, that just about says it all!

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD M. A. WILLHOFT,
41 Higher Green, Epsom, Surrey.
ewillhoft@aol.com
November 3.

Open discussion of PR

From Mr Andrew Stallard

Sir, I do not believe there is any contradiction, as Mr James Moorhouse, MEP, suggests (letter, October 29), in expecting Labour MEPs to sign a code of practice pledging not to speak publicly on proposed changes to the system of European elections, and Mr Peter Hain's recent article on proportional representation (October 23).

Peter Hain has accepted the fact that PR will be introduced and his article simply contributes to the discussion taking place on what form we should adopt. Labour MEPs, however, are being reminded of Labour's commitment to the electorate, a commitment that they should honour.

As an active Labour Party member I took pride during the election in the knowledge that the Labour Government would keep the promises it made and the people justifiably believe that this should be so.

I do not want wayward MEPs, frightened of losing their seats, to undermine the effort that we in the grass roots put into achieving success for our party. They have the same opportunity as everyone else to make a positive and valuable contribution to the PR debate.

Yours sincerely,
A. STALLARD,
37 Garrick Close, Hersham, Surrey.
andrew.stallard@berteismann.de
October 29.

Colour code

From Dr P. J. C. Chapman

Sir, With all the talk of yellow ribbons, what colour ribbon should one wear to express the opposite view?

Yours faithfully,
PETER CHAPMAN,
Whitestone,
Highbrook, West Hoathly, Sussex.
November 4.

Business letters, page 29

Artistic and financial cost of Covent Garden proposal

From Mr Richard Fisher

Sir, In proposing that two opera companies and a ballet company should share one theatre (reports, November 5 and 6), the Culture Secretary seems strangely unfamiliar with English operatic history. In 1959, at the behest of the Arts Council, Sadler's Wells Opera (now ENO) absorbed the old Carl Rosa opera company, with its extensive touring commitments, and for the next nine years two companies lived under the same roof at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

In theory one company performed in London while the other was on tour, and vice versa, but since regional theatres were not available year-round this did not always work out in practice, and the operation put an intolerable strain on all concerned. It was only with great difficulty that musical and production standards were maintained.

The solution was to be a new opera house for the company on the South Bank, next to the new National Theatre. Plans for both were far advanced, but when Labour came to power in 1964, the new Government announced that while it would continue to fund the building of the National Theatre it had no money to build an opera house, and the project was cancelled.

It was only thanks to the vision of the company's managing director, Stephen Arlen, with the support of Lord Goodman, and Prince Littler at the London Coliseum, that the company was finally able to move there in 1968.

If two opera companies sharing one theatre manifestly did not work thirty years ago, it is difficult to believe that two opera companies and a ballet company will do any better now. It is ironic that it should be another Labour Government that seems determined to frustrate yet again the progress of this country's oldest opera company.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FISHER
(Sadler's Wells Opera, 1961-85),
1 Middle Lane, N8.
November 5.

From Sir John Tooley

Sir, Bold and imaginative ideas are needed to remedy the financial and managerial ills of London's opera houses. The proposal put forward by the Secretary of State for Culture is not the answer.

None of the companies will have sufficient stage time for the fulfilment of their artistic aspirations and none will be able to employ their resources fully, thus negating the all-important concept of value for money.

Extending access to performances is an integral part of the philosophy of public funding of the arts. Huge strides have been made in the development of education programmes, but ticket price has become more of an obstacle because of declining funding and the need to attempt to make good ensuing deficits through the box office.

Along with many other arts organisations, the Royal Opera House has been one of the truly great success stories of postwar Britain. Not only would a fundamental change in its mode of operation be disastrous for the reputation of this country for failing to find the means of supporting it, but it would be a betrayal of the hundreds of men and women through whose talents and commitment the companies of the Royal Opera House have gained world recognition and admiration since Covent Garden's reopening in 1946. The same is also true of ENO.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TOOLEY
(General Director,
Royal Opera House, 1970-88),
2 Leinster Mews, W2.
November 5.

From the Director of Development at the Royal Academy of Arts

Sir, Whilst there may be political advantages in the proposal for the Royal Opera House and ENO to share Covent Garden, not least a justification for investing £78 million lottery money in the building, there will be costs.

Lack of clarity could make fundraising more difficult for both companies. When I was responsible for ENO's fundraising between 1989 and 1995, we built upon the extraordinary loyalty of ENO's public through initiatives such as "Sponsor an Opera" which raised over £2 million in the period. Such results depend upon a close relationship between the company, its home and its public. There is serious danger that ENO will lose its identity at Covent Garden and its appeal to sponsors and donors.

This proposal will also reduce access. ENO will have to perform less. Unless the Royal Opera reduces its prices substantially there will be fewer performances of affordable opera available to people who live in or visit the capital. Yet attendance figures prove that there is sufficient demand for two opera houses in London. As touring opera is prohibitively expensive, this proposal will not result in any public gain.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NICKSON
(Director of Development and
the Royal Academy Trust),
Royal Academy of Arts,
Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1.
November 5.

From Mr Robin Dartington

Sir, No one should wonder why the Royal Opera House is giving cautious welcome to amalgamation. The opportunity to annex the entire capital assets, plus the whole annual subsidy, of English National Opera to cover up its own mismanagement, while only giving the same number of performances — for that is what will happen unless Sir Richard Eyre is very careful — is the biggest windfall Chris Smith could possibly have offered.

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN DARTINGTON
(Project Director,
Royal Opera House, 1978-88),
30 Hampden Road,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

From the Countess of Minto

Sir, I do not have the qualification of being a brain surgeon, and so I humbly submit my opinion. If we choose to build a monstrous millennium dome while our capital city languishes without proper investment in the fabric and talent of our opera and theatre houses, we surely need our heads examined.

I remain, yours faithfully,
CAROLINE MINTO,
Minto Home Farm, Roxburghshire.
November 5.

From Mr Barry Ramsay

Sir, So, if Chris Smith has his way the People's Opera will soon be sharing a theatre with the Toffs' Opera. Does this mean that the toffs will be paying the people's ticket prices or vice versa?

On second thoughts, I suspect I already know the answer to that one.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY RAMSAY,
119 Studland Road, W7.
November 4.

God's soldiers fight back against a fearful Parris

From Mr Nicholas Beale

Sir, The philosophical and scientific arguments for the existence of God — well summarised, for instance, in Professor Keith Ward's *God, Chance and Necessity* (Oneworld, 1996) — are now almost overwhelming.

This is one reason why in a scientifically literate nation like the US the vast majority of people believe in God, with graduates somewhat more likely to be theists than non-graduates. Nor is it easy to explain how, without the resurrection, 11 dejected followers of a wandering teacher, who never wrote a book and was executed in his 30s, now have two billion successors worldwide.

So Matthew Parris ("Wishing upon a star", October 31) is right to draw attention to people like his friend, a "philosophy graduate from Cambridge", who had never seriously considered these arguments, whilst falling for absurd superstitions about shooting stars.

People are free to choose what they believe. But if they fail to consider the arguments, they cannot claim to be educated, whatever their paper qualifications.

Yours faithfully,
N. C. L. BEALE,
Sciteb Ltd, 1 Hay Hill,
Berkeley Square, W1.

From the Reverend A. E. Applegarth

Sir, For a graduate in philosophy, Matthew Parris displays a remarkable lack of logic. By concluding that "In the beginning was the Word . . ." he is acknowledging the existence of a Prime Mover — the very thing he is at pains to discount.

The fact that Mr Parris calls the word "Fear" is immaterial. Most people still refer to it as God.

Yours faithfully,
TONY APPLEGARTH,
The Rectory,
High Street, Stogursey,
Bridgwater, Somerset.
November 1.

From Dr Edward Young

Sir, Matthew Parris uses a lengthy article to explain that though he is a firm non-believer, fear still makes him superstitious.

The 18th-century poet Dr Edward Young (no relation) was more succinct: "By night an atheist half believes a God" (*Night Thoughts*, 1742-45).

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD YOUNG,
68 Beech Lane,
Earley, Reading, Berkshire.
November 1.

From Father John Buckley

Sir, May I commend your editorial, "All Saints" (November 1). A post-Christian society that moves ever ominously towards paganism begins to develop pagan attitudes to realities like death. Pagan society masks death and surrounds it with bizarre rituals and games, in an effort to bury it further.

In the case of the late Princess Diana, the hundreds of thousands who genuflected or bowed in the process of placing flowers on pavements, or pelted the hearse as it moved along, were trying to express a tremendous grief at the loss of a loved one. But one has to ask when all the flowers have gone, what then? Or one might question with W. B. Yeats, "Was it needless death after all?"

Your excellent piece, which placed Jesus of Nazareth at the centre of things, helped to bring light and love to bear on the apparent needlessness and meaninglessness of Princess Diana's death, and indeed on all human death. For this, what remains of Christian Britain is indebted to you.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BUCKLEY,
The Presbytery,
Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham,
Southampton, Hampshire.
November 3.

WPC's death

From Professor Juliet Cheetham

Sir, The death of WPC Nina Mackay (report, October 27; letters, October 28) is a tragedy and is, of course, being followed by anguished inquiries about how it could have been avoided.

Searching questions are already being asked about appropriate body armour and about the implications of community care and the courts' attempts to stop prisons being overwhelmed with people on remand.

Your detailed and careful reporting of this awful affair also provokes other questions which deserve equally careful analysis.

For example, did the police have good grounds for thinking that Magdi Elgizouli's flat would be barricaded, so justifying a break in by nine police officers?

The police's handling of all this may well have been impeccable but there have been sufficient examples of unnecessary maximum force resulting in tragedies for the most effective and least dangerous tactics in such circumstances to be thoroughly scrutinised.

Yours faithfully,
JULIET CHEETHAM,
Peffermill House,
91 Peffermill Road, Edinburgh 16.
October 28.

Royals in Africa

From Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, MP for Cotswold (Conservative)

Sir, I am delighted to see that the visit by the Prince of Wales and Prince Harry to Southern Africa was such a success (report, November 5). Clearly, their Royal Highnesses were very well received and enjoyed a warm welcome. Could it be that the absence of the Foreign Secretary was a contributory factor?

As I said in the House of Commons recently, a quiet period of reflection by the Foreign Secretary would do him and his country a power of good.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY CLIFTON-BROWN,
House of Commons.
November 5.

French road strike

From Mr George Hubbard

Sir, Hasn't the European Union a more positive role to play in the French truckers' dispute?

Would it not be appropriate for the EU in the first instance to meet all the reasonable claims for losses incurred by foreign companies, and then to ensure that payment is recouped speedily from the French authorities?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE HUBBARD,
The Rectory,
High Street,
Willingham, Cambridge.
November 3.

Damp Eurosquib?

From Mr S. B. C. Evelegh

Sir, Is there any point in celebrating tonight when the treaties of Rome, Maastricht and Amsterdam have largely succeeded where Guy Fawkes failed?

Yours faithfully,
SHAUN EVELEGH,
Cairnbrook,
Fairy Road, Seaview, Isle of Wight.
November 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Prayers and pints

From the Reverend M. J. Hensman

Sir, I am an ordained Christian minister who rides a motor cycle (letters, October 22, November 1, 5). I sometimes find it easier to pray and to worship God while on the bike than in some church services. Mind you it is not a good idea to close your eyes in prayer or to lift your hands in praise.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. HENSMAN,
89 Sparrow Farm Road,
Stoneleigh, Epsom, Surrey.
November 5.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE:
November 5: His Excellency Mr José Gregório Faria was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Portuguese Republic to the Court of St James's.

Mrs Faria was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

The following were received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon their appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassadors: Mr Anthony Galsworthy (the People's Republic of China), Mr Haydon Warren-Gash (the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire), Mr Brian Donnelly (the Republic of Yugoslavia), Mr Charles Crawford (the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Mrs Galsworthy, Mrs Warren-Gash and Mrs Crawford were also received by Her Majesty.

The following were received in audience by The Queen upon their appointment as British High Commissioners: Mr Michael Dibben (the Republic of Fiji) and Mr Charles Drace-Francis (the Independent State of Papua New Guinea).

Mrs Drace-Francis was also received by Her Majesty.

Members of Her Majesty's Medical Household were received by The Queen and presented a gift to Her Majesty on the occasion of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh's Golden Wedding Anniversary.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning made a presentation to sponsors of The Prince of Wales's Trust at Government House, Wellington, New Zealand.

His Royal Highness later received former members of The Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (to mark the relinquishment of his Colonelcy-in-Chief on the disestablishment of the Corps) and serving members of The Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment at Government House.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, today attended the Sixth International Award Forum in Wellington.

His Royal Highness this evening left New Zealand for Los Angeles, United States of America.

November 5: The Prince Edward, Trustee and Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, continued his visit to Wellington, New Zealand, for the Sixth International Award Forum.

His Royal Highness this morning attended a meeting of the International Council followed by a meeting of the International Trustees at the International Plaza Hotel.

The Prince Edward this afternoon flew to Wanganui and visited the Putiki Marae.

His Royal Highness, Patron, Friends of the Wanganui Opera House, later visited the Opera House to view the renovations.

The Prince Edward afterwards visited Wanganui Collegiate School.

His Royal Highness flew to Taupo this evening to attend the World Fellowship Reception and Dinner at Huka Lodge.

November 5: The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon attended Christmas in November at Littlewood Park, Alford, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire (Captain Colin Farquharson of Whitehouse).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, later visited Harley and Company (Peterhead) Limited, Queen Street, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, afterwards visited the shop in Union Street, Aberdeen, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Aberdeen (Councillor Mrs Margaret Farquhar, the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended a Reel Party at Elphinstone Hall, Aberdeen University.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 5: Lieutenant Colonel David Bone today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Honorary Colonel, The Royal Yeomanry, upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Sutcliffe also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Commanding Officer of The Royal Yeomanry.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother visited Queen Mary's Clothing Guild at St James's Palace this afternoon.

Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 5: The Prince of Wales this morning visited Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, South Africa.

His Royal Highness afterwards attended a Reception given by the British High Commissioner at the South African Museum, Cape Town.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited the Ravensmead Clinic Tuberculosis project, viewed a clinic and mobile laboratory and tuberculosis awareness-raising activities.

His Royal Highness later flew to Johannesburg and attended the final session of a Business Leaders Forum seminar at the British Consulate General.

The Prince of Wales this evening departed Johannesburg for London.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 5: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this evening attended an auction to celebrate the Twenty Fifth Anniversary of the Dyslexia Institute at Christie's, King Street, London SW1.

November 5: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Counsel and Care (Advice and help for older people), today attended a Luncheon at the House of Lords, London SW1.

YORK HOUSE
November 5: The Duke of Kent, Vice Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Rover Group, Cowley, Oxford, and was received by Mr Charles Parker (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Medawar Centre and Sharp Laboratories of Europe, Oxford Science Park, Littlemore, Oxford.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will give a luncheon for the President of the Czech Republic and Mrs Havlova at Buckingham Palace at 1.00.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, accompanied by the Duke of York, will visit the Field of Remembrance at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at 11.20.

The Duke of York, as patron, will attend a rehearsal of the City Ballet of London at the London Studio Centre, 42-50 York Way, King's Cross, N1, at 5.30.

The Princess Royal will open the Aberdeen Maritime Museum, Ship Row, Aberdeen, at 11.25; will open the Rehabilitation Centre, Eday Road, at 1.00; and as president, Save the Children Fund, will attend the Young People's seminar on board *HMY Britannia*, Aberdeen, at 3.00. Later, as president, Animal Health Trust, will hold a reception and dinner on board *HMY Britannia*, at 7.30.

Princess Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief, The Light Dragoons, will attend the officers' annual dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, at 7.40.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open Homelands Hall for Christchurch Housing Society, Kings Avenue, Christchurch, Dorset, at 2.30; will open Riversmeet Court, a joint project between Twynham Housing Association at HyPe (Homeless Young People in Eastern Dorset) accomodation in Stony Lane South, at 3.20.

The Duke of Kent will attend a gala concert at Wigmore Hall, at 6.50.

Service dinner

The Queen's Royal Hussars
Major-General R.E. Barron, Colonel of The Queen's Royal Hussars (The Queen's Own and Royal Irish) presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Lecture

British Archaeological Association
Mr Adrian B. Marsden, winner of the Reginald Taylor and Lord Fletcher Essay prize for 1996, delivered a lecture to the British Archaeological Association last night at the Society of Antiquaries. Mr Laurence Keen, president of the association, presided and presented Mr Marsden with a bronze medal.

Luncheons

RAFT
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Alderman David Howard, was the guest of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at the Mansion house in aid of RAFT, a charity supporting research and education in reconstructive plastic surgery and burn injury treatment. Sir Robin Chichester Clark, chairman, presided. Mr Anthony Julius, Trustee of the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, was the guest speaker.

Arts Council of England
The Earl of Gowrie, Chairman of the Arts Council of England, and Mr John Spearman were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at 14 Great Peter Street.

The King's School, Canterbury and Worksop College
Professor Thomas Stapleton, OKS, presided at a luncheon which was held at The Athenaeum yesterday as a tribute to the late Canon F.J. Shirley and to mark the publication of *Fred Remembered* edited by Robin Pitman. The Headmasters of Worksop College and The King's School, Canterbury, were present.

Ladies' Naval Luncheon Club
Dame Stella Rimington was the guest speaker at the autumn luncheon of the Ladies' Naval Luncheon Club held yesterday at the London Goodenough Trust, Mecklenburgh Square. Lady Brown, chairman of the club, presided.

***The Times* pensioners**
A luncheon of *The Times* pensioners was held yesterday at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club. Mr Philip Howard was the guest speaker. Those present were:
Ms Margaret Allen, Mr James Bishop, Mr George Clark, Mr Bill Clarke, Mr Richard Davy, Mr Frank Eggleston, Mr Peter Evans, Mr W J H Evans, Mr John Grant, Mr Charles Hargrove, Mr Walter James, Miss Enid Knowles, Mr Jack Lonsdale, Mr Iverach McDonald, Mr Edward Mortimer, Mr Leon Pilpel, Mr Dennis Robertshaw, Mr Peter Ryde, Mr David Spanier, Mr Henry Stanhope, Miss Philippa Toomey, Mr Colin Watson, Mr Colin Webb, Mr Richard Wigg, Mr Alan Wood and Mr Geoffrey Woolley.

Receptions

HM Government
Lord Clinton-Davis, Minister for Trade, was the host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House to mark the ninth meeting of the Turkish British Business Council.

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators
Mr George Bartlett, President of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, presided at a reception held last night at 16 Park Cresent, London, W1, after the annual church service held at St Marylebone Parish Church, marking the centenary of the founding of the ICSA's benevolent fund. The Rev Christopher Gower officiated. Mr Bartlett and Mr Arthur Smith, ICSA's charities officer, read the lessons. The Provost of Southwark gave an address.

School news

St Paul's Girls' School
St Paul's Girls' School announces the following awards:
Senior Scholarships: Katie Lane, Zoe Rooke, Alison Thomas.
Senior Exhibitions: Aniela Kornicka, Imogen Long.

The Institution of Civil Engineers

Sir Alan Cockshaw, FEng, FICE, FIHT, became the 133rd President of the Institution of Civil Engineers on November 4, 1997.

Baroness Young of Old Scone

The life barony conferred upon Miss Barbara Scott Young has been gazetted by the name, style and title of **Baroness Young of Old Scone**, of Old Scone in Perth and Kinross.

Baron Smith of Clifton

The life barony conferred upon Sir Trevor Arthur Smith has been gazetted by the name, style and title of **Baron Smith of Clifton**, of Mountsandel in the County of Londonderry.

SHAWN BALDWIN

The Lord Mayor's coach, carrying the Lord Mayor Elect, Alderman Richard Nichols, gliding past St Paul's Cathedral early yesterday morning during a rehearsal for the Lord Mayor's Show on Saturday

The Institute of Export

Examination results May 1997
The following have completed all parts of either the Professional Examination Part I or the Professional Examination Part II/Diploma in Export Management. In deciding who should receive the awards detailed below, the Institute's education committee considered results from November 1996 as well as those from May 1997.

Prize list
The Company of World Traders Silver Salver Award for the best papers in either part of the examinations: Mrs C E Dee (May 1997)

Professional Examination Part II/Diploma in Export Management
The National Westminster Bank Prize for the highest marks: Miss D J Stuttard (May 1997)
The DTI Prize (Second highest marks): Mrs. Z. M. Popel (May 1997)
The DHL International (UK) Prize (Third highest marks): Mrs. A. R. Finney (May 1997)
The Barclays Bank Prize (International Marketing (Export Distribution)): Mrs Z M Popel (May 1997)
The DTI Prize (International Marketing Research): Miss E. W. Olson (May 1997)
The George Lockhart Prize (Principles of Management in Export): Miss D J Stuttard (May 1997)

Professional Examination Part I
The British Aerospace Prize (Highest marks): Mrs C E Dee (May 1997)
The Maerskline UK Prize (Second highest marks): Mr P J Flint (May 1997)
The T & R (Insurance Services) Ltd Prize (Joint third highest marks): Miss S M Baxter (May 1997)
The Institute of Export Prize (Joint third highest marks): Miss J L Minshull (May 1997)
The Alex Lawrie Factors Ltd Prize (Principles of Marketing): Mr R G Whittington (November 1996)
The Clive & Twinkie Schmitthoff Prize (Principles of Law Relating to Overseas Trade): Miss S M Baxter (May 1997)
The National Westminster Bank Prize (International Trade and Payments): Mr A J Goodberry (May 1997)
The Sitpro Prize (International Physical Distribution): Mrs C E Dee (May 1997)
The Society of Shipping Executives Educational Trust Prize: Mrs C E Dee (May 1997)

Certificates of Merit
For exceptional proficiency in the subjects of the Professional Examination Part II/Diploma in Export Management:
In November 1996: Ms S Wallace
In May 1997: Mrs A R Finney, Miss J E Hudson, Miss B W James, Mr P J Merton, Mrs Z M Popel, Miss C A Scott, Miss D J Stuttard, Mr R G Whittington
For exceptional proficiency in the subjects of the Professional Examination Part II:
In November 1996: Mr R G Whittington, Mr S Woodhead
In May 1997: Miss S M Baxter; Mr M Bentley, Miss I R Cameron, Miss A J Coward, Mrs C E Dee, Mr B R East, Mr P J Flint, Mrs E J Hayter, Miss J L Minshull

May 1997 Examination Results
The Professional Examination Part II/Diploma in Export Management
Passes were awarded to the following candidates who have satisfied the examiners in International Marketing (Export Distribution), International Marketing Research (Export Markets, Selection, Research and Statistics) and Principles of Management in Export and who are thereby eligible for Graduate Membership of the Institute.
Adair, L P, Silverspear; Agboli, B K V, Strongfield Technologies
Bal; S S, Baill Trading; Baldwin, M J, Eschmann Equipment; Barber, J Mrs, NSK - RHP; Barber, M E Mrs, Ernst & Young; * Bartlett, M J, Coulter Electronics; Binnall, B A Mrs, Trident Alloys; Bowman, A M Miss, SRL Associates
Carlisle, P A Mrs, Borculo Whey Products UK; Charnl, J K Miss; Chick, P S, Jones & Shipman; Chivers, M T, SGS UK; Cooper, L A Miss, Astracast
Dandy, L Miss, G N Burgess & Co; Davies, L A Ms, BICC Cables; Davies, T K Mrs, C P Pharmaceuticals; Evenett, N G Miss, Madison Container Lines
Feather, G A Mrs, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce; Finney, A R Mrs; Freakley, J R, Aston Manor Brewery; Freeland, D E
* Gotch, C J R, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Gough, D Mrs, Bray Technologies; Gupta, K D London Underground
Hammond-Bryan, V E Mrs, Manchester Chamber of Commerce; Harding, M J Miss, White Young Green; Harrison, M W BICC Cables; Heaton, G M Mrs, A Martin Burnit; Hinchcliffe, T E Miss, Schneider; Hirons-Alectim, S L Mrs, Akzros Chemicals; Hopkinson, S P Miss, IMI Air Conditioning; Hoyle, K M Miss, Rosemont Pharmaceuticals; * Hudson, J E Ms, Hickson Timber Products; Hughes, K E Ms, Four Square, Division of Mars
James, B W Miss, Cytec Aerospace; James, J M P Pan Global Freight and Distrib; James, K R Mandoval; Jarrett, D F, John Crane UK; Johnson, C M Ms, Trinidad and Tobago Export Credit Insurance; Jones, J M, Tribo Foods; Jones, T Mrs, Lancergal
Kerr, R N, Kelly Services Customs Brokerage; Kiln, A L Mrs, Ocular Sciences
Lewis, C M Miss, David Brown Pumps; Liliani, M R, S G Brown, Division of Vosper Thorneycroft Marine Products; Linford, C J Miss, Tesco Stores; Longward, A J Glynwed Foundries; Loughlin, A Miss, Europe Magnetics Corp; Ludlam, A B, Orbital Freight
Mackey, M B, Powell Gee; Maenhaut, N W A Mrs, Amps; Merton, P J, Trade Indemnity; Mistry, A V Miss, Panalpina World Transport
Oida, C P, Olano, B Miss; Ormesroyd, J J Miss, Borden Decorative Products; Osborn, L J, Ogden Cargo; O'Shea, T, Birkart International
Patel, V K; Pennant, I. A, Inter-Euro/Global Export Consultants; Pinney, C R P, Rohm Electronics; * Popel, Z M Mrs, Reliance Gear; Powell, E Mrs, Ravensworth
Quinn, S M
Raroo, B; Read-Bolam, K Mrs, Crosland Fibers; Reer, P Mrs, Kimberley-Clark; Rinaldini, P, Savoy
Scott, C A Miss, Bede Scientific Instruments; Skilton, J Miss, BAT (UK & Export); Skinner, C W, Sedgwick Credit; Smith, G D Miss, Hedley Purvis; Smith, J A Miss, East Mercia Chamber of Commerce; Spanner, K L Miss, NCM Credit Insurance; Squire, J P Mrs, Rockware Glass; Steele, A D Woolworths; Stephens, A Miss, Trade Indemnity; Stringfellow, E Mrs, Rectella; * Stuttard, D Miss, AIG Europe (UK)
Thomas, A G Miss; Thompson, M C, Tioxide Specialities; Torres, G S J, First Citizens Bank, Trinidad
Vega, E Ms, Cardiff Bar & Sections; Vince, V P Mrs, Breckland Neighbour Mediation Service
Warren, M D; White, G, Sco Ltd; * Whittington, R G; Williams, P Mrs, Shaw Son & Greenhalgh; Woo, Miss J; Woodhead, S, Moores Furniture Group; Wright, J, Global Freight Services; Wright, N J Miss, Global Freight Services
Yarrow, P A, Lee Steel Strip.

The following have completed studies for Graduate Membership through the professional examinations and exemptions:
Bibaud, J P; Marmaster, L M Miss; Nugnes, R F; Perrins, E J Miss; * Pitch, S J Miss.
* Distinction in one subject in May 1997

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.D.S. Bowden and Miss A.D.I. McKay
The engagement is announced between Alexander, eldest son of Mr Alan Bowden, of Calne, Wiltshire, and Mrs Veronica Rose, of Redditch, Worcestershire, and Anna, youngest daughter of Mr Peter McKay, of Kensington, London, and Mrs Elizabeth McKay, of Ravenscourt Park, London.

Mr P.R. Bruges and Miss P.M. McLellan
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Bruges, of Semington, Wiltshire, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs John McLellan, of Les Galliennes, Torteval, Guernsey.

Mr M.R. Johnstone and Miss E.E. Jacobs
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Dr and Mrs Roger Johnstone, of Woking, Surrey, and Emma, daughter of Dr Derek Jacobs and the late Valerie Jacobs, and stepdaughter of Barbara Jacobs, of Sutton on the Forest, York.

Mr A.M. Pitts-Tucker and Miss C.E.L. Whicker
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Mark Pitts-Tucker, of Yarnscombe, Devon, and Caroline, younger daughter of the late Mr Michael Whicker and of Mrs Michael Whicker, of Godalming, Surrey.

Mr H.E. Mortimer and Miss A.C. Blundy
The engagement is announced between Horatio, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Mortimer, of Burford, Oxfordshire, and Anna, daughter of the late Mr David Blundy and of Mrs Ruth Chatto, of London.

Mr P.D. Rees and Miss T.E. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Paul, second son of Mrs Susan Rees, of Mylor, Cornwall, and Tanya, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Campbell, of Box, Wiltshire.

Mr A.I. Tokatly and Miss S.C. Meader
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs Zuhair Tokatly, of Purley, Surrey, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Meader, of Caterham, Surrey.

Mr L.H. van der Schalk and Miss E.V.M. Dunn
The engagement is announced between Lucas, younger son of Mr and Mrs Max van der Schalk, of Haslemere, Surrey, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Dunn, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

Marriage

Mr G.J. Marner and Miss V.E. Coburn
The marriage took place on October 31, 1997, between Mr Guy Justin Marner and Miss Vanessa Elizabeth Coburn.

The Royal Society of Edinburgh

The following have been elected to the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Council for session 1997-98:
President:
Professor M.A. Jeeves.
Vice-Presidents:
Dr A.D. Milne, Professor J.D.M.H. Laver, FBA, Sir James Armour.
General Secretary:
Professor P.N. Wilson.
Treasurer:
Sir Lewis Robertson.
Curator:
* Professor M. Anderson, FBA.
Fellowship Secretary:
* Professor J.L. Monteith, FRS.
Research Awards Convener:
Professor I.A.D. Bouchier.
Programme Convener:
Professor F.T.Last.
Secretaries to Meetings:
Professor J.B.I. McDonald, * Professor J.S. Beck.
Councillors:
Professor C.C. Bird, Professor L.J. Bown, Professor R.J. Donovan, Professor J.C. Ellbeck, Professor G. Fleming, Dr L.S.D. Glasser, Professor D.S. Ingram, Professor J.M.A. Skorupski, Professor N.L. Innes, * Professor D.J. Breeze, * Professor J.C. Brown, * Principal Andrew Miller, * Lord Ross.

* denotes those elected for the first time to council; the others have been re-elected for a further year.

Legal appointments

Mr John Prophet has been appointed President of the Industrial Tribunals for England and Wales from November 3.

Mr Michael John Friel and Mrs Joanne Hazel Alderson have been appointed Provincial Stipendiary Magistrates for the Derbyshire Commission Area; Mr Friel will be based at Chesterfield Magistrates' Court and Mrs Alderson at Derby Magistrates' Court.

Dinners

Army and Navy Club
General Sir Charles Guthrie, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the speaker at the annual dinner of the Army and Navy Club held last night at the club.

Musicians' Company
Mr Frank Fowler, Master of the Musicians' Company, assisted by Professor Malcolm Troup, Senior Warden, and Sir Alan Traill, Junior Warden, presided at the installation dinner and awards ceremony held last night at Stationers' Hall. Sir John Chalestry was the principal guest. Miss Catrin Finch, harp, entertained the company.

British Institute of Radiology
To mark the Centenary of the British Institute of Radiology, a Dinner was held last night at the Café Royal. Professor Michael Smith, President of the BIR, presided.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: James Gregory, inventor of the reflecting telescope, Aberdeen, 1638; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Dinant, Belgium, 1814; Richard Jefferies, naturalist, near Swindon, 1848; John Philip Sousa, the march king, composer and band conductor, Washington, 1854; Ignace Paderewski, pianist, composer and Prime Minister of Poland 1919, Kurylówka, 1860.

DEATHS: Heinrich Schütz, composer, Dresden, 1672; Sir Charles Napier, admiral, 1860; Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, composer, St Petersburg, 1893; Kate Greenaway, artist and book illustrator, London, 1901.

Abraham Lincoln was elected the 16th American President, 1860.

The first hydrogen bomb was exploded at Eniwetok Atholl in the Pacific by America, 1952.

The construction of the Kariba High Dam began, 1956.

The borders between East and West Germany were opened, 1989.

Birthdays today

Sir John Allen, former chairman, Housing for Wales, 69; Professor J.P. Barber, former Emeritus Professor, Hatfield College, Durham University, 66; Professor Lord Bauer, 82; Mr James T. Bowman, counter-tenor, 56; Mr Frank Carson, comedian, 71; Mr C.A. Christopher, trade unionist, 65; Mr David Exham, Headmaster, Bloxham School, 53; Miss Sally Field, actress, 51; Mr K.B. Griffin, economist, 59; Mr Nigel Havers, actor, 46; Mr Bernat Klein, designer, 75; Mr Leonard Miall, research historian, 83; Mr David Montgomery, chief executive, Mirror Group Newspapers, 49; Admiral Sir Anthony Morton, 74.

Mr Mike Nichols, film director, 66; Lord Nimmo Smith, Senator of the College of Justice, Scotland, 55; General Sir David Ramsbotham, 63; Professor Sir Martin Roth, FRS, psychiatrist, 80; Sir Oliver Scott, radio-biologist, 75; Sir George Sinclair, population and development adviser, 85; Mr M.T. Thyne, Headmaster, Fettes College, 55.

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If you think you are standing firm, take care or you may fall. So far you have faced no trial beyond human endurance. 1 Corinthians 10 : 12

BIRTHS

ALI - To Simak and Chiara (née Gatti), a daughter, Laura Zarina, in London on 4th November.

ALLEN - See Graham.

BAILEY - On October 31st at The Portland Hospital, to Ruth (née Lasak) and Jeremy, a son, Matthew Douglas Crampton.

BROWNE - On October 29th at The Portland Hospital, to Amber (née Fielding) and Paul, a son, Thomas Connor.

COKE - To John and Jayne (née Elkins) on 25th October a fine son, Edmund Charles John, a brother for Matilda.

COOPER - Catherine (née Mooney) and Thomas are delighted to announce the birth on 1st November 1997 of Sophie Alice, a sister for Laura.

CHEWE - On October 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Robin and Zita, a daughter, Gabriela, a sister for Thomas and Michael.

ENOCH - On November 3rd, to Angela (née Fox) and Simon, a son, Charles George, a brother for Charlotte and James.

FENWICK - On 3rd November, to Jane (née Watkins) and Andrew, a son, Mungo John Alexander.

GRAHAM - On 27th October 1997 at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital to Elizabeth Allen and Michael Graham, a beautiful daughter, Sophie Alexandra Allen.

GRAYSON - On October 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline (née Geary) and Ralph, a son, James William Edward.

HAIDER - To Salman and Samina (née Ali), a daughter, Eraj, in USA on 3rd November. A welcome sister for Kashan.

HARRISON - On October 29th 1997 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Margot (née Mendoza) and Anthony, a son, James Duncan, a brother for Ella and Robert.

HOWARD-VYSE - On November 3rd at the Sandton Clinic Johannesburg S.A., to Henry and Tessa (née Shentall), a son, Oliver George Edward.

LAITHA - On October 30th 1997 in Guildford, to Susan and Adrian, a daughter, Molly Louise, a sister for Jessica and Phoebe.

MILLER - To Caroline (née Fowlie) and Robert, at Bristol on 22nd October, a beautiful son, Jacob George, a brother for Daisy.

MOOR - On 28th October 1997, to Jacky (née Wilson-Haffenden) and Gerald, a son, James Philip, a brother for Sabrina.

NEAGLE - On October 6th, to Kathryn (née Fleetwood) and Paul, a daughter, Lucinda Esther-Rose Fleetwood, a sister for Oliver and Arabella.

PAYNE - On 3rd November 1997 at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Alison (née Hand) and Toby, a beautiful daughter, Lucy Louise.

PINDER - On November 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Tracy (née Lawrence) and Lee, a daughter, Grace Victoria.

STRONG - On October 27th 1997 at Kingston Hospital, to Fiona (née Fleming) and Christopher, a son, Alexander Sebastian Fleming, a brother for Sophie and Alice.

UGLAND-EDE - On November 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Benedikte and Petrus, a daughter, Emilie.

VINT - On October 29th, to Georgia (née Dibben) and Hugo, a son, Frederick Charles.

DEATHS

BUNBURY - On 4th November 1997 peacefully at home Charles Thomas, beloved husband of Amanda and adored father of Emma, Rebecca, Venetia, James, Dominic and Augusta. Funeral Service at St Gregory's Church, Bandlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk on Tuesday 11th November at 11.30 am. All friends welcome. Family flowers only. Donations to Trinity Hospice, 30 Clapham Common North Side, London SW4 0RN.

CAMERIL - John William died aged 81 at home on 2nd November after long illness. Will be missed so very much and was greatly loved by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at Amersham Crematorium today 6th November. All enquiries to H.G. Grimstead, F/D (01494) 672668.

CRAFT - Kathleen Mary 1897-1997 aged 100. Beloved wife of Samuel, mother of Michael and Peter. Peacefully passed away on Monday 3rd November. Funeral to be held at Guildford Crematorium at 2.30 pm on Friday 7th November, c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 25 South Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6NY.

FUGGLES-COUCHMAN - On November 3rd peacefully at the Dower House, Headbourne Worthy, Patricia, dearly loved widow of Robin, and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. A Private Cremation will be followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Broughton, nr. Stockbridge, Hants. on Thursday November 13th at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to "The Iris Fund for Prevention of Blindness" c/o A.H. Chester, Funeral Directors, Romsey, Hants.

FULLER - On November 4th at home, Michael Trevor Fuller OBE, DSC, beloved husband of the late Sheila and father of Mary, Thomas, James and Rebecca. Funeral Mass at St Thomas à Becket, Tarporley on Friday 7th November at 2pm. No flowers. Donations if desired to Countess of Chester Hospital c/o Lightfoot & Son Funeral Directors, Tarporley, tel: (01829) 733808.

GALLIE - On 4th November 1997, peacefully, Margaret Agnes Mary, aged 84 years, beloved mother of Duncan Gallie and sister of Douglas Kelly. Requiem Mass (Old Rite) at the Church of St James, Spanish Place, W1 on Wednesday 12th November at 11 am, followed by burial in Putney Vale Cemetery. Requiescat in Pace. Please no flowers, but your Masses and prayers would be appreciated. All enquiries to A France & Son. Tel: 0171 405 4901.

GRAHAM - Peacefully at home in Kilconquhar on Tuesday November 4th 1997 Dr. Janet Graham (née Mills), beloved wife of the late Dr. George A. Graham, formerly of St Albans. Devoted mother of Sally, Ruth and Elspeth and much loved grandmother of Rachel, Catherine, Kirsty, Alex, Penny, Tom and Nick. Funeral Service in Kilconquhar Crematorium on Friday November 7th at 2.30 pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to the Douglas Ward St Andrews Memorial Hospital on leaving crematorium.

HOLFORD - Surgeon Rear Admiral John Mosley Holford CB FRCP, peacefully on November 4th aged 88, husband of the late Monica, father of Andrew and Charles. Funeral Service on Monday November 10th at 11.30 am, Crownhill Crematorium, Milton Keynes, Bucks. Family flowers only. Donations to the Masonic New Samaritan Fund. All enquiries to C.F. Holford (01908) 265884.

JACKSON - On the morning of the 1st November 1997, Bob, died peacefully at home, having enjoyed an evening out with friends. Dearly loved partner to Di, much loved father of Mark, Julie and Amanda, grandfather to Daniel, Matthew and Oscar. Funeral Service at Southampton Crematorium (East Chapel) on Friday 7th November at 4 pm. Flowers, or donations if preferred to "R.N.L.I.", c/o Jno. Steel & Son Funeral Directors, 6 Chesil Street, Winchester, SO23 0HU.

LANCASTER - Herbert Maurice on 3rd November 1997, aged 92, at Vicarage Gate Nursing Home, London W8. Beloved husband of Marie-Jaqueline, devoted father of Carolyn and Maria, grandfather of Merlin and Zephyr, grandfather-in-law of Gianluca and great-grandfather of Eloise. Private cremation, family flowers but donations if wished to The Stroke Association, CHSA House, Whitecross Street, London EC1Y 8JJ.

LOWE - Sue (née Warman), Councillor of Bath and North East Somerset, died at home on November 2nd aged 52. Dearly loved mother, daughter, sister and friend of many. Cremation at Haycombe, Bath, Friday 7th November at 2.30 pm, followed by reception at the Guildhall. Family, friends and colleagues welcome. Family flowers only please, but donations to Dorothy House Hospice, Winsley, or Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund. At last at peace.

MACKIE - On 3rd November 1997, peacefully aged 90, at The Manor House Nursing Home, East Bridgford, Kathleen de Récourt (née Martyn), devoted wife of the late Harry Mackie of Fleasley Vale, much loved mother of John, Richard and Patrick, and loving grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, East Bridgford, at 1 pm on Monday 10th November, followed by private committal. Family flowers only. Any donations to St Michael's Church, Fleasley, c/o Mr L.S. Clay, 1 Old School Lane, Fleasley, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

MILLER - Thomas Vieger, on November 2nd peacefully. Dearly loved husband of Elise (née Richmond), father of Sue, Paul and Marie and grandfather to Ben, Harriet, Dan, Tom and Jessie. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium 11.30 am November 11th. No flowers - donations to the British Legion.

PIKE - Margaret at Dundendale Lawn, Newton Abbot, on 4th November 1997 after a long illness borne bravely, dearly beloved wife of Claude and mother of Penelope and John. Private family requiem. No flowers please. Service of Thanksgiving on Thursday 13th November 1997 at St Mary's Church, Wolborough, Newton Abbot at 12 noon. Donations if desired to Torbay Hospital League of Friends M.S.I. Scanner Appeal c/o Zealley Funeral Service, 20 Union Street, Newton Abbot.

PUGSLEY - Robin of Shiplake, Oxon., suddenly on 28th October, beloved husband of Marjiane, a adored father of Robert and Pandora and a wonderful friend of many. Funeral Service at Shiplake Church on Wednesday 12th November at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Macmillan Cancer Relief(Henley) c/o Tomalin & Son, 38 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon. RG9 1AG.

RULE - Mary Burges peacefully in her sleep November 4th. Wife of Lt. Col. D.G. Rule, 3/15 Punjabis (deceased). Funeral Eastbourne and Park Crematorium, Brackmell 1.30 pm Wednesday November 12th. No flowers please, donations to the Red Cross.

SCOTT - Alastair John Moray aged 62 died peacefully on 2nd November 1997 at Isabel Hospice, Welwyn Garden City. Much loved husband of Jean, father of Helen and grandfather of William and Thomas. Family flowers only please. All enquiries to Rotherwatt & Son Ltd., (01707) 652288.

STRATTON-BROWN - Margaret Aileen Frances (Betty) on November 3rd aged 90. Much loved mother of Michael, Colin and Keith and families. Service at St Luke's Church, The Royal Hospital, Haslar on Thursday November 13th at 11 am. No flowers please, but donations, if wished to S.S.A.F.A. c/o Churcher & Tribbeck, 3 Stoke Road, Gosport, PO12 1LT.

VANE - Eric Digby Tempest aged 84 peacefully on November 3rd at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Dearly loved husband of Kay, much loved father of Fiona, Christopher, Susan and Charles, grandfather and great-grandfather. Private cremation, no flowers please.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

GROZIER-COLE - November 6th 1990. Patrick Alan. Remembered today and every day with great love and gratitude. Eileen.

THOMPSON - (Lady) Hilda A. died 6th November 1993. "For my heart cannot rest nor be wholly content until it rests in You." (Thomas à Kempis, The Imitation of Christ).

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

WEBSTER - Sqn. Ldr. I.B. Webster AFC*Bar, died tragically 6.11.89. Dear Chunky 'If only' Mrs M.E. Sorrows.

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OBITUARIES

GEORGE CHAMBERS

George Chambers, former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, died of cancer in Port of Spain on November 4 aged 69. He was born on October 4, 1928.

When George Chambers succeeded the autocratic Dr Eric Williams as Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago in 1981, he took over a country grown rich in the oil boom of the 1970s. But he was faced almost at once with the task of preparing his compatriots for the harsher realities of life after the oil revenues dried up. His attempts to preach restraint and to diversify the economy met with much resistance, and in 1986 he and his party, which had held power uninterrupted for thirty years, suffered a crushing defeat at the polls.

George Michael Chambers was born in Trinidad and left school in his early teens with only a partial secondary education, becoming an office boy in a local solicitor's office. By taking correspondence courses and by reading, he prepared himself for a wider career, and then worked for a time in the legal department of a foreign oil company operating in Trinidad.

During Chambers's early manhood, political life in Trinidad, emerging from colonial tutelage, was electorally fragmented and chaotic. The return of Dr Eric Williams to Trinidad changed this almost overnight, and in 1956 his People's National Movement (PNM) achieved the political ascendancy which it maintained for the next three decades.

The PNM was one of the best organised parties in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and Williams appreciated those who showed method and application in constituency work. Chambers joined the party, worked diligently, and in 1966 contested his first parliamentary election, handsomely winning the seat.

He was immediately appointed Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, and in 1969 became Minister of Public Utilities and Housing. In 1970, a difficult period for public order in Trinidad — it was the year of the army mutiny — he was made Minister of National Security, and in 1971 he became Minister of Finance, Planning and Development. At the same time he advanced in the party organisation, becoming assistant general secretary.

Williams valued Chambers's advice on party matters, and supported him as one of the three deputy political leaders of the PNM; but he eventually removed him from Finance, taking the portfolio himself in 1975. Chambers remained in the Cabinet as Minister of Education and Culture, and, subsequently, as Minister of Industry and Commerce, with the additional responsibilities of Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries.

The unexpected death of Williams in March 1981 left, by his express design, no heir apparent. Chambers was not generally considered a leading contender, and it was with some surprise that Trinidad and Tobago learnt that President Ellis Clarke, after soundings, had appointed him.

An election was held seven months later, on November 9. Chambers swept back, even increasing the PNM majority by two, from 24 to 26. This was a triumph, as the main opposition parties had combined in an electoral alliance, with power bases in Tobago and among the East Indian population in the sugar belt; two Indian seats fell to the PNM, traditionally the party of the black urban worker. A new party, the Organisation for National Reconstruction, failed to gain a seat but polled a significant aggregate vote.

Before Chambers became Prime Minister, and in the early months of office, he seemed pleasantly modest and low-key. His interests were the private ones of reading and listening to operatic recordings, both somewhat unusual in Trinidad.

Unlike the reclusive Williams, he was approachable, and the contrast, and perhaps the relief that all was not crashing with the death of "The Doctor", secured him support and great goodwill. He also allowed the lid to be lifted on some of the gross corruption with which several of Williams's ministers had been involved, and he cut back some of the more extravagant projects which had been started.

He wished to see government made more effective, and a sense of responsibility engendered. But he also himself now became more opinionated and seemingly less willing to listen. He resumed contact with his fellow heads of government in the Caribbean Community, which Williams had virtually boycotted. But here, too, he soon began to show both arrogance and a tendency to lecture leaders who, on the whole, were much better educated and more experienced than he was. His *amour propre* showed itself, for instance, in the Grenada crisis of October 1983, when he insisted on summoning the meeting of Caricom government heads to Port of Spain, even though Barbados was clearly their venue of choice; there he took a line against military intervention which was not popular with Trinidadians.

His popularity had already begun to wane before then, as he began to face up to the problems that came inevitably with declining oil revenues. Trinidad and Tobago recorded its first balance of payments deficit in 1982, and as the boom which had transformed it into the Caribbean's richest country in the 1970s faded, Chambers warned his countrymen that "the fête is over, and it is time for the country to go back to work".

It was not a popular message. Attempts to introduce wage restraint were met with strikes. Unemployment rose steadily. Chambers's decision to ask the International Monetary Fund for aid in diversifying the country's shrinking economy was severely criticised in some quarters.

At the general election of December 1986, the PNM suffered a landslide defeat. Chambers and all but two of his ministers lost their seats. The opposition National Alliance for Reconstruction under A. N. R. Robinson took 33 of the 36 seats in the House of Representatives. Two years later, by which time the price of oil had slumped, Chambers's successor negotiated IMF loans of some $200 million.

Chambers retired from politics and largely withdrew from public life after his party's rout at the polls; he was succeeded as Leader of the Opposition by Patrick Manning, a former Minister of Energy. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

LESLIE PEROWNE

Leslie Perowne, broadcasting executive, died on November 1 aged 91. He was born on August 18, 1906.

IN following his own career, Leslie Perowne suffered from two personal handicaps. He never quite recovered from being not only the son but the grandson of a Bishop of Worcester, in the grand days when such prelates occupied the whole of Hartlebury Castle. And, similarly, even after his father died (which he did as long ago as 1948), he failed to emerge wholly successfully from the shadow cast by his elder brother, Stewart, the noted orientalist and one-time husband of Freya Stark.

Leslie Arthur Perowne followed his brother to school at Haileybury but, unlike his older sibling, did not go on to university. Instead, he was articled to an architect and, although he never passed any professional exams, he was always to regard architecture as an integral part of his life. For a brief period he ran a record shop in Surbiton and, although this hardly met with the approval of his father, it did in those pioneering days enable him to land his first job with the BBC — in what was known at the time as "the Gramophone section".

He soon managed a transfer to the more exciting Variety department, where he became known as "the king of Swing", claiming to have put "jazz on the map" (though jazz in Britain probably owed more to Alistair Cooke, with his 1938 series *I Hear America Singing*). Later, having returned to the Gramophone section as its head, he was also to claim credit for having launched *Desert Island Discs* in 1941, though the formula for this programme was undoubtedly devised by its founding presenter, Roy Plomley.

Appointed head of the Variety department in 1942, he had the bad luck later that year, aged 35, to be called up into the Royal Engineers. With his BBC background, he soon escaped into the Army Broadcasting Service, helping with Forces stations in Algeria, Italy, Greece and Austria.

On demobilisation he returned to the BBC, where he used to boast that he had started the first version of *Woman's Hour* and also propelled *Down Your Way* on its long journey into broadcasting history. But the first sign that all was not entirely well may, in retrospect, have surfaced with his appointment in 1949 as director of the British Forces Network, based in Hamburg.

Although this was a responsible post, it necessarily removed him from the mainstream of the BBC's output, which was then concentrated on the Home Service, the Light Programme and the newly created Third Programme. He stayed in Hamburg for only two years, but the pattern of his future BBC career had been established.

After four rather nebulous years back in London he was seconded in 1955 to the Gold Coast Broadcasting Service in Accra. Once the Gold Coast attained its independence as Ghana in 1957, he moved on to become the first director of broadcasting in Sierra Leone. He remained in Freetown for four years — building up the staff from five to more than fifty — but once the country became self-governing he was encouraged to retire (apparently on the ground that he was not "a political animal", which was certainly true). He spent the last part of his working life, 1961-72, with BBC Sound Archives and finally, once it had been established, with BBC Enterprises.

For many years he and his brother Stewart shared a house in West London. They were very much an item on the London social circuit and would usually appear together at parties. Stewart died in 1989 and Leslie continued living alone in their old home until earlier this year. A man with a great interest in the arts and music, he was proud of his skill as a dancer, recalling deep into old age how he had once "danced the Charleston with Jilly Cooper's mother".

He was a lifelong bachelor.

PETER NOBES

Peter Nobes, former Chief Constable of North Yorkshire Police and of West Yorkshire Police, died of a heart attack on October 13 aged 62. He was born on October 1, 1935.

WHEN Peter Nobes was going out for the evening, during his years as a senior policeman, his wife would often whisper to the driver that he should make sure not to take them past any police stations. She was afraid of arriving late, because her husband could scarcely be restrained from going in to see how his men were doing.

As Chief Constable of two Yorkshire forces in succession, Nobes did not throw his weight around or make radical changes. Instead he worked steadily and conscientiously, keeping a low profile, but supporting his officers. He was known for his fairness, his grasp of detail, and for his extensive legal knowledge and recall. He was always respected by those who worked under him because, as a young policeman, he had had years of practical experience.

His remarkable rise, after a slow start, from the beat to the chief constable's office, was a result more of dedication than of egotistical ambition.

Born in Fakenham, Norfolk, John Peter Nobes left his secondary modern school without any formal qualifications. After a stint as a shop assistant in a grocery store, he joined the Royal Signals at Catterick for his National Service in 1954, and trained as a wireless operator. He had a natural flair for this work, and in his two years with the Signals he became a full corporal and a valued member of the training staff. By that time he had married his childhood sweetheart, Ruth.

Despite some inclination to stay with the Armed Forces, he then joined the West Suffolk Constabulary as a policeman, influenced perhaps by his father's service as a Special

Constable. He pounded the beat for eight years in that rural country, where promotion was generally slow.

But then he passed the promotion exams, his results putting him among the top thirty in the country, and gained a place on the second "special course" held at the police staff college in Bramhall, Hampshire. This course was designed for selected high-flyers who had been identified as having the potential to reach the most senior positions in the service relatively quickly.

The depth and breadth of his intellect now began to emerge, and he not only attained the course certificate with distinction, but won a couple of prizes as well. He was promoted to sergeant at just 28.

Nobes was well on the ladder to success. After a further spell on operative duties he was seconded to University College London to take a degree. He and Ruth now had two daughters, and they moved to a Metropolitan Police flat. Such was his dedication to his studies that when asked what her father did for a living, one of his young daughters once said: "He swots and we have to keep quiet." While at university he was promoted to inspector, and he came away with a first in law.

In his absence, his old force had merged with another, and he returned to duty as a member of the Suffolk Constabulary. In 1969 he transferred to the Essex and Southend-on-Sea Constabulary as a chief inspector. He served operationally at Harlow before being transferred to the staff division at Chelmsford HQ.

Promotion to superintendent followed when he had only 17 years' service, and subsequently Nobes became a chief superintendent at Basildon, before transferring to West Yorkshire in 1977 with the rank of assistant chief constable.

In due course, in 1983, he was appointed deputy chief constable of that force, before moving to North Yorkshire as Chief Constable in 1985. The following year he won the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service.

In 1989 Peter Nobes returned to West Yorkshire as its Chief Constable. He won the force's respect by taking the time to speak to as many of his staff as possible, making visits to all divisions during the Christmas period to hear the problems and concerns of ordinary constables.

In the course of his career Peter Nobes held a number of national police appointments, including chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' Technical and Research Group.

He was an accomplished euphonium player: he and Ruth had become close while playing together in a band in their early years, and Peter played successively in the Essex Police Band and the West Yorkshire Police Band. In retirement he conducted his local village band.

He is survived by his wife and daughters.

JOHN PARKER

John Parker, journalist and author, died on October 30 aged 71. He was born on September 24, 1926.

ONCE Ian Smith made his Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 1965, John Parker became the first of a distinguished line of journalists to be deported from Rhodesia. For 48 hours he was placed in solitary confinement, having to listen to the cries of other inmates being caned in the prison yard. He was given seven days in which to leave the country with his wife and six children.

Parker's imperturbability and modesty were such that he could dismiss this lightly in his book *Rhodesia: Little White Island*, written on his unexpected return to Britain. Yet he had been considered a prized scalp: the means by which the Smith regime could tame the country's largest newspaper group, the Argus Company. In the right-wing fanaticism that swept the country in the months preceding UDI, this was one of the last dissenting voices — and Parker was their symbol.

He was then chief sub-editor in Salisbury of the *Sunday Mail* and president of the Rhodesian Guild of Journalists. He had come into possession of the contents of two reports by prominent Rhodesian groups forecasting a dismal future for the country in the event of UDI and consequent economic sanctions. On instruction from Smith's office and under a trumped-up interpretation of the Official Secrets Act, Parker

was interrogated repeatedly by the Special Branch and asked to name his source. He refused.

Parker was prosecuted under an obscure section of the Public Order Act. Five days after UDI in November 1965, through a series of legal manoeuvres, he won his release. He still refused to name his source. In Britain the National Union of Journalists promised support, as did *The Times*, to which Parker had been contributing reports for four years. Throughout this ordeal, his humour and equanimity stood him in good stead.

Anthony John Parker was educated at the City of London School, which was evacuated to Marlborough College during the Second World War. He joined the 60th Rifles as a 2nd lieutenant and volunteered for the Parachute Regiment, seeing active service in Palestine. Before he was demobbed, he was offered a choral scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford, but chose not to take it up, reasoning that he should earn his living. This was to be his one regret in later life.

Instead, he joined the Press Association and worked for the *Essex Chronicle* before emigrating to Southern Rhodesia in 1955 with his wife, Margaret, whom he had married in 1948. As well as working for the *Sunday Mail*, he was employed also on the *Bulawayo Chronicle* and the *Rhodesia Herald*.

When Parker returned to Britain in 1966, he moved into television, becoming deputy foreign editor and then sports editor of ITN, a job he much enjoyed. In the Caribbean in 1973-74, his cameras provided the only televised evidence of the infamous running-out of Alvin Kallicharran by Tony Greig in a Test match between West Indies and England, which almost caused a riot.

After leaving ITN in 1976, Parker worked for Sir James Goldsmith's ill-fated *Now!* magazine and then on the foreign desk at *The Times* and as a cricket writer for *The Sunday Times*. He himself was a decent club player who kept wicket for Essex Amateurs in the 1950s. One of his five sons, Paul, captained Sussex, where the family settled, and had one Test appearance for England.

Parker's other interests were hockey — he played for the East of England — gardening, bee-keeping, crosswords, reading detective stories and listening to music. He was the author of several books, including the popular *Tillingfold* series and *Twelfth Man*, a cricket novel.

He leaves a widow, four sons and a daughter. A fifth son predeceased him.

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EMPEROR STRIPPED OF TITLE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PEKING, Nov. 5.

The plot thickens in this city of dreadful uncertainty.

This afternoon soldiers sent by the Provisional Government invaded the Imperial Palace, closed all the entrances, and disarmed the guards. The young Manchu Emperor was presented with a revised version of the agreement between the Manchu family and the Republic of China, which he was required to accept. It provides for the abolition of his title and privileges, for his retirement from the palaces, for the reduction of the annual payment to the Manchu family of $4,000,000 [£500,000] to $500,000, for a commission to decide what is State and what is family property, and sets out that the Emperor can choose his own place of residence, subject to the significant condition that it shall be under the protection of the Republic, which means that foreign sanctuary is out of bounds for him. The Emperor, with the Empress and second Consort, then moved to the house of his father, Prince Chun, where he is now carefully guarded.

The object of the coup is still obscure, but the hand of Karakhan [the Soviet envoy], of Sun Yat-sen, and others is popularly suspected. In any case it has been effected while there is no President, before the conference of leaders to determine State policy, before the arrival of Chang Tso-lin or of Tuan Chi-jui (the military candidate for the Presidency).

Whether the object is to obtain access to the accumulated treasures contained in the Yellow City or to anticipate a possible restoration of the monarchy by Chang Tso-lin, is still a mystery. It is declared that no harm is intended to the young man, but assurances on this point are highly desirable . . .

The Manchu dynasty, which had ruled China since 1644, ceased to reign with the abdication of Hsuan Tung on February 12, 1912.

Hsuan Tung was the tenth of the line, was born on February 11, 1906, and succeeded his uncle Kuang-Hsu on November 14, 1908. From the fact that he came to the throne when quite an infant he is known as the "Boy Emperor." By the terms of his abdication he retained the title of Emperor of the Manchu Imperial House and was granted a subsidy of $4,000,000, but at his death both title and subsidy were to cease.

As a child he remained in the Imperial Palace under the guardianship of the Empress Dowager Lung Yu. Her death in 1914 acted as a spur to the ambitions of Yuan Shih-kai, who had become Dictator-President, and desired to restore the Monarchy with himself as Emperor.

Yuan died in 1916 and China entered upon a period of uncertainty in the midst of which General Chang Hsun came to Peking, ostensibly to mediate between warring politicians, but in reality to restore the Manchu dynasty . . . Chang was attacked and after a few days' fighting capitulated and the young Emperor went back into retirement.

ON THIS DAY

November 6, 1924

After the coup the emperor Hsuan Tung (known as P'u Yi) surrendered to the Japanese who in 1934 made him emperor of Manchukuo. In 1945 he was captured by the Russians who, in 1950, handed him over to Communist China. After nine years of political indoctrination he was freed. Pu Yi died in 1967.

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES TODAY THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6 1997

NEWS

Blair accused over tobacco ban

■ Tony Blair was accused of destroying an eight-year effort to end cigarette advertising across Europe after he decided to exempt Formula One motor racing from a ban on tobacco sponsorship.

The Prime Minister's U-turn has almost certainly scuppered any chance of a Europe-wide advertising ban this century — the EU had expected to approve one next month. It has also infuriated the health lobby ..... Page 1

Lamont attack on Heseltine

■ Norman Lamont undermined the Conservative pro-European fightback by accusing Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine of caring more about Europe than the pound and alleging that Mr Clarke once said that Britain should be absorbed into a federal Europe ..... Page 1

Hunting reprieve

Tony Blair ruled out allowing time for anti-hunting legislation in this parliamentary session. He told MPs that he was not prepared to risk the loss of key government business ..... Page 1

Heathrow escape

The pilot of a trans-Atlantic airbus made a dramatic emergency landing at Heathrow airport without causing any serious injuries to passengers ..... Page 1

Rail regulator row

Ministers will tighten control of the rail regulator amid astonishment that he has abandoned plans to name firms giving poor information to passengers Page 2

Hindu boot anger

The shoe manufacturers Clark's was the target of calls for a boycott by the 900,000-strong British Hindu community, for "blasphemy" over namingfootwear after gods ..... Page 3

Woodward adamant

Louise Woodward was "absolutely, completely adamant" that she would accept only an "all or nothing" charge of murder, said her defence attorney ..... Page 5

London car ban

Public access to London's most famous landmarks will be transformed under plans announced to ban cars from much of Trafalgar Square, Parliament Square and Whitehall ..... Page 7

Ban on poppies

People should not be penalised for wearing remembrance poppies, the Prime Minister said as he rebuked a factory in Northern Ireland that has suspended 20 workers *without pay* ..... Page 9

Hijackers jailed

Six Iraqis who fear death under Saddam Hussein's regime were jailed after hijacking a jet and forcing it to fly them to Britain ..... Page 11

Strike violence

A dozen masked men wielding crowbars and baseball bats attacked striking lorry drivers at a blockade in southern France as union leaders and haulage bosses sought a way to end the increasingly violent strike ..... Page 13

Cyclone deaths

One of the worst cyclones to strike the Cook Islands has left five people dead and 14 missing while hundreds of homes have been wiped out ..... Page 14

Yeltsin axe

President Yeltsin dismissed one of the Kremlin's most powerful and controversial figures to try to end a feud among his senior advisers ..... Page 16

UN appeal to Iraq

A United Nations mission attempted to persuade President Saddam Hussein to reverse his ban on Americans in UN inspection teams ..... Page 17

Mystery opera lovers give £15m

■ Wealthy benefactors have responded to a cry for help from the beleaguered Royal Opera House, donating £15m to keep afloat until the opening of its new building in two years' time. The identity of the patrons was not revealed but the ROH went out of its way to stress that it was neither of its most active benefactors, Vivien Duffield or Lord Sainsbury ..... Page 1

CHRIS HARRIS

WPCs bow their heads as the coffin of Nina Mackay, the murdered policewoman, arrives for her funeral at Loughton, Essex. Page 2

BUSINESS

CBI warning: Business is likely to be at odds with the Conservatives for the next ten years because of opposition to EMU, the head of the Confederation of British Industry says ..... Pages 25, 27

Vickers bid: Mayflower Corporation may launch an £800 million hostile takeover bid for Vickers, which has invited offers for its *Rolls-Royce business*.. Pages 25, 27

BA woes: British Airways vowed to put its "summer of discontent" behind it as it revealed that the cabin crew strike and strong pound contributed to a 33 per cent fall in half-year operating profits ..... Page 25

Markets: The FTSE-100 rose 10.9 to 4,908.3. Sterling fell to 102.4 from 102.9, down 0.98 cents to $1.6756, 1.30 pf to DM2.8872 ..... Page 29

SPORT

Football: Chelsea's leading lights are agreed that the second leg of their Cup Winners' Cup match against Tromso will be no easy game against an expected packed defence ..... Page 44

Rugby league: John Monie, who coached Wigan to 14 trophies in four seasons, is to return to the club after a 4½-year absence at the *expense of Eric Hughes* ..... Page 48

Rugby union: New Zealand will field an international-strength XV against Llanelli in the opening match of their tour. Zinzan Brooke is excluded ..... Page 46

Athletics: Frank Dick, head coach during Britain's most successful period, said that he would be willing to return as successor to Malcolm Arnold ..... Page 43

Alter ego: Nicolas Cage and John Travolta swop faces and roles as cop and villain in the week's big movie thriller, *Face/Off*. Also out this week is the latest from the "muscles from Brussels", Jean Claude Van Damme ..... Page 34

Delayed comeback: Fifty years after she last appeared in a movie, the double-Oscar winner Luise *Rainer has returned in The Gambler* ..... Page 35

Sounds various: Lisa Stansfield turned her Wembley Arena gig into a giant party; and a touring *Porgy and Bess* offers exhilarating entertainment ..... Page 36

Comic turn: The Vaudeville Theatre in the Strand is to be turned into a variety-palace featuring the best modern comedians ..... Page 37

Jaundice jab: Dr Thomas Stuttaford writes about a jab to avoid hepatitis A; why women should not allow themselves to be discouraged from attending breast-screening clinics; men's health problems; sleep patterns ..... Page 18

Invisible star: Her records sell as well as Madonna's, yet the tabloids leave her alone and she never performs in public. Noreen Taylor talks to Ireland's star secret, Enya ..... Page 19

Capital spirit: Peter Ackroyd marvels at the time-defying spirit of London; Joanna Pitman peeps into the world of the geisha; Richard Cork on the surreal world of Salvador Dali ..... Pages 38, 39

Holiday best buys: Package deals for some of the best shows in London; short breaks in Dublin; a bargain, five-night break in Singapore ..... Page 40

The umpteenth Iraqi crisis reminds us of the baseness of Saddam Hussein. But it also reminds the West of its impotence in its attempts to control a character that it did much to help into power in the period of the Iran-Iraq war

— *La Libre Belgique*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **MEDIA**
In the new, expanded Media section, Michael Jackson reveals his plans for Channel 4

■ **EDUCATION**
David Charter on the financial pressures on further education

RADIO & TV

Preview: The lads are back, laddish as ever. *Men Behaving Badly* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** Joe Joseph on rugby according to the marketing men ..... Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Short on specifics

Wise governments husband their credibility. They do not promise to do things which ordinary people know to be manifestly beyond their power. The title of the aid White Paper, *Eliminating World Poverty*, fails the credibility test at the start ..... Page 21

Currency of business

Until a "clear and unambiguous" (to borrow a phrase) majority of big businesses is keen to join a single currency as soon as possible, ministers should take what the CBI says with a pinch of salt ..... Page 21

New York, new order

Tony Blair would like to be regarded as a tough, effective, moderate. He should indeed look west but to Mayor Giuliani's New York, not Clinton's Washington ..... Page 21

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Labour has never achieved two full terms, and has repeatedly become unpopular because of cyclical pressures on the economy. Perhaps the Government's biggest fear is that this will happen again ..... Page 20

NORMAN LAMONT

Ken Clarke and Michael Heseltine are rightly described as big beasts. Like the Bourbons, they have learnt nothing from history ..... Page 20

PETER RIDDELL

Sir Patrick Neill has the great advantage of inheriting from Lord Nolan an important working addition to our constitutional checks and balances ..... Page 12

OBITUARIES

George Chambers, former Prime Minister of Trinidad; **John Parker**, author and journalist; **Leslie Perowne**, broadcaster; **Peter Nobes**, Chief Constable ..... Page 23

LETTERS

Freemasons; Covent Garden; is there a God?; MEPs and PR; Royal welcome; WPC's death ..... Page 21

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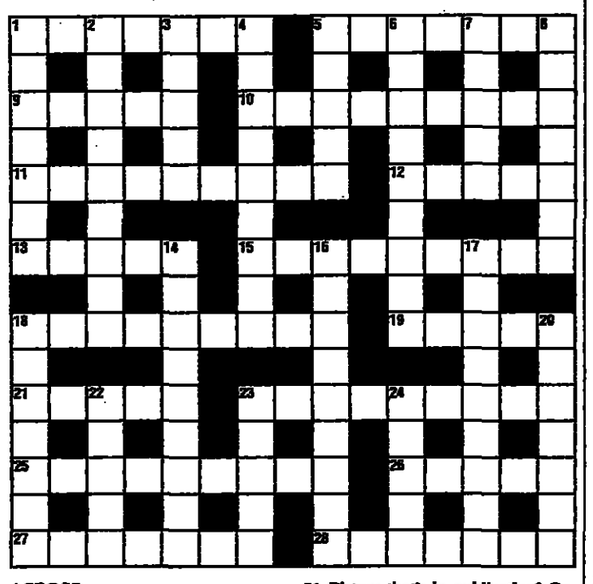

ACROSS

1 Most of powerful remedy husband swallowed in style (7).
5 Slur on reputation inhibits us getting support (7).
9 Black bird to seek prey (5).
10 Argument after partnership accepts a deal (6,3).
11 Forcibly push pawn with impatience to attack two men (9).
12 Shrub I planted in return visit (5).
13 Meals with last of spare rib (5).
15 Cut short committee that may support one's paper (9).
18 Page turn in right place is of benefit to chapter (9).
19 Explain away damage after end of evening (5).
21 Approach time for supernatural omen (5).
23 Very taxing work in gunship (9).
25 Hermit has an uninteresting job? That's about it (9).
26 Picture that's in publication? On the contrary (5).
27 Refusal to accept decline reported (7).
28 Pointing out special offer including one good lot of books (7).

DOWN

1 Defence's loss of temper about a criminal charge (7).
2 Refusal to corrupt early days in vocation (9).
3 Simple job top commander finds hard (5).
4 Candlestick finally placed in niche (9).
5 Craft waiting to land a lot of wood (5).
6 One of those carrying things across a bay? (9).
7 Scandalise a missionary by the way one speaks (5).
8 Spotted cake's unfinished state? (7).
14 Conductor holds baton in chosen direction (9).
16 Gossip is spread about people in detached homes (9).
17 Be horrified about nuclear weapon finally dropped in vengeance (9).
18 Duck finds edible plant at bottom of river (7).
20 Gets excited about some people's portion (7).
22 Laughs at exams (5).
23 Give direction to fielder (5).
24 Way to take bad photograph (5).

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Times Two Crossword, page 48

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** a showery day across the country but mild everywhere. Across Scotland the showers will merge to give longer spells of rain, but there will be glimpses of sunshine in the southeast at first and in the west later. Elsewhere there will be sunny spells and showers. A few of the showers are likely to be heavy and accompanied by blustery winds. Tonight, most parts will be dry and the winds light.

☐ **London, E Anglia, Midlands, NW England:** sunshine and showers. A blustery westerly breeze. Max temp 15C (59F).

☐ **SE, Central S & SW England, Wales, Channel Isles:** sunny intervals and showers, some heavy and blustery. Moderate southwesterly breeze. Max temp 14C (57F).

☐ **E, Central N & NE England:** sunny spells and a few showers. Moderate southwest breeze. Max temp 15C (59F).

☐ **Isle of Man, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland:** cloudy at first with showers. Becoming brighter with occasional showers. A fresh northwesterly wind. Max temp 12C (54F).

☐ **Aberdeen, SW & NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy with spells of showery rain. A fresh northwest breeze. Max temp 12C (54F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** sunny intervals at first, but clouding up with showers. A light south-east breeze. Max temp 13C (55F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** sunny intervals and showers. Moderate northwest wind. Max temp 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** drier but more rain will move into the west and south. The rain in the south will be heavy with strong winds.

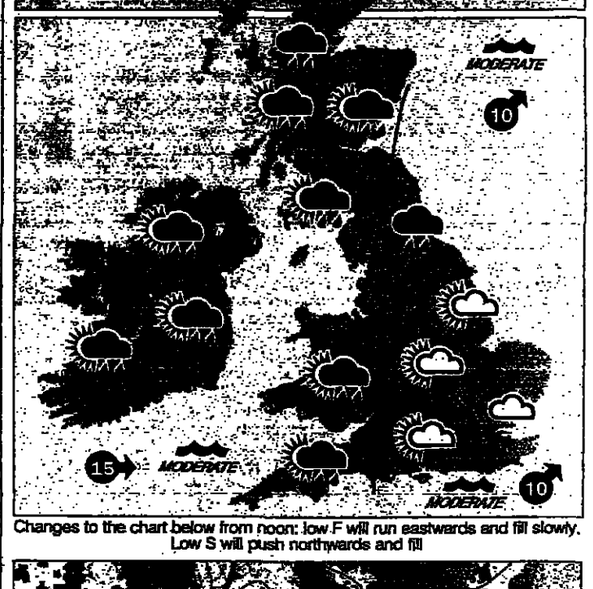
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.13	10	50	r	Kinloss	-	0.01	9	48	r
Anglesey	-	0.30	13	55	r	Leeds	2.8	0.28	14	57	sh
Aspatria	-	0.33	11	52	r	Lerwick	-	0.22	7	45	r
Aviemore	-	0.01	8	46	r	Littlehmptn	2.5	0.05	15	59	sh
Belfast	-	0.02	10	50	d	London	3.6	0.05	16	61	sh
Birmingham	2.4	0.20	14	57	sh	Lowestoft	2.2	0.12	14	57	c
Bognor R	3.7	0.05	15	59	sh	Manchester	2.4	0.16	14	57	sh
Bristol	2.6	0.11	15	59	sh	Margate	2.1	0.02	14	57	b
Buxton	0.4	0.35	11	52	sh	Morecambe	-	0.16	15	59	c
Cardiff	0.5	0.07	13	55	sh	Newcastle	-	0.11	13	55	d
Clacton	3.6	0.01	13	55	b	Newquay	X				
Cleethorpes	5.1	0.10	15	59	s	Norwich	3.1	0.03	15	59	b
Cromer	2.0	0.09	15	59	b	Oxford	2.5	0.43	14	57	sh
Eastbourne	0.3	0.02	14	57	sh	Penzance	X	0.20	14	57	sh
Edinburgh	-	0.21	10	50	r	Poole	1.7	0.07	16	61	r
Eskdalemuir	-	0.50	10	50	r	Prestatyn	-	0.03	16	61	c
Exmouth	2.8	0.11	15	59	sh	Ross-o-wye	1.2	0.20	14	57	sh
Falmouth	0.8	0.07	14	57	du	Saunton Snd	0.8	0.03	15	59	du
Fishguard	-	0.31	12	54	r	Scarboro'	1.8	0.11	13	55	c
Folkestone	X					Skegness	3.6	0.34	14	57	sh
Glasgow	-	0.08	9	48	r	Southend	4.2	0.02	15	59	sh
Guernsey	4.9	0.16	17	63	sh	Southsea	3.7	0.18	15	59	sh
Hastings	1.8	0.02	14	57	c	Stornoway	0.1	0.02	10	50	r
Hayling I.	X	0.10	14	57	sh	Swanage	2.8	0.34	15	59	sh
Herne Bay	2.0	0.10	15	59	c	Teignmouth	3.4	0.13	15	59	sh
Hove	1.2	0.02	14	57	c	Tenby	-	0.39	13	55	sh
Hunstanton	X	0.15	17	63	s	Tiree	-	0.02	11	52	r
Isle-of-man	-	0.81	13	55	r	Torquay	4.0	0.11	15	59	b
Isle-of-wight	2.5	0.01	14	57	s	West-s-mare	2.1	0.06	16	61	b
Jersey	3.4	0.02	15	59	b	Weymouth	4.0	0.18	13	55	r

ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	21	70	f	C'phagn	4	39	f	Majorca	23	73	f	Rome	19	66	f
Akrotiri	21	70	s	Corfu	19	66	s	Malaga	23	73	s	Salzburg	7	45	s
Alex'dria	23	73	c	Dublin	10	50	f	Malta	21	70	c	S Fr'isco	19	66	s
Algiers	23	73	f	Dubrovnik	17	63	f	Melb'rne	14	57	c	Santiago	18	64	c
Amst'dm	7	45	s	Faro	18	64	f	Mexico C	19	66	s	S Paulo	X		
Athens	18	64	s	Florence	19	66	f	Miami	23	73	f	Seoul	16	61	s
Bahrain	28	82	f	Frankfurt	7	45	f	Milan	15	59	f	Sing'por	32	90	c
Bangkok	29	84	f	Funchal	23	73	c	Montreal	10	50	s	St'holm	1	34	f
Barbados	30	86	f	Geneva	8	46	s	Moscow	-2	28	c	Strasb'rg	1	34	fg
Barcelona	21	70	f	Gibraltar	21	70	f	Munich	4	39	s	Sydney	20	68	c
Beirut	20	68	f	Helsinki	1	34	f	Nairobi	20	68	f	Tangier	20	68	c
Belgrade	8	46	s	Hong K	23	73	s	Naples	20	68	s	Tel Aviv	19	66	r
Berlin	3	37	s	Innsbruck	13	55	s	N Delhi	25	77	s	Tenerife	27	81	f
Bermuda	25	77	f	Istanbul	11	52	f	N York	16	61	r	Tokyo	19	66	f
Biarritz	15	59	f	Jeddah	31	88	f	Nice	20	68	f	Toronto	X		
Boston	15	59	c	Jo'burg	26	79	f	Oslo	1	34	f	Tunis	18	64	r
Brussels	10	50	s	L Palmas	26	79	s	Paris	10	50	c	Valencia	23	73	f
Budapest	7	45	s	Le Touquet	11	52	s	Peking	13	55	s	Vanc'ver	12	54	s
B Aires	21	70	c	Lisbon	20	68	f	Perth	22	72	c	Venice	13	55	f
Cairo	25	77	f	Locarno	10	50	c	Prague	3	37	s	Vienna	6	43	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	L Angeles	24	75	s	Reykjavik	3	37	s	Warsaw	3	37	s
Chicago	5	41	f	Luxembg	6	43	f	Rhodes	19	66	f	Wash'ton	12	54	f
Ch'church	20	68	X	Luxor	28	82	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Wel'ngton	18	64	X
Cologne	6	43	s	Madrid	16	61	f	Riyadh	25	77	f	Zurich	4	39	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: low F will run eastwards and fill slowly. Low S will push northwards and fill

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	04.58	6.8	17.22	6.7	Leith	06.07	5.0	18.25	5.0
Aberdeen	04.45	3.9	17.00	3.9	Liverpool	02.15	8.5	14.40	8.5
Avonmouth	10.25	11.6	22.45	11.2	Lowestoft	00.30	2.4	13.06	2.3
Belfast	02.16	3.3	14.32	3.4	Margate	03.01	4.5	15.29	4.5
Cardiff	10.11	10.8	22.34	10.5	Milford Haven	09.30	6.2	21.54	5.9
Devonport	06.49	5.1	21.08	4.8	Newquay	08.25	6.2	20.50	5.9
Dover	01.55	6.2	14.15	6.1	Oban	08.56	3.5	21.06	3.3
Dublin (N Wall)	03.04	3.7	15.20	3.8	Penzance	07.53	5.0	20.16	4.8
Falmouth	06.19	4.9	20.39	4.8	Portland	10.00	1.9	22.36	1.6
Greenock	03.40	3.2	16.04	3.4	Portsmouth	02.33	4.4	14.48	4.3
Harwich	02.56	3.8	15.34	3.7	Shoreham	02.09	5.7	14.32	5.5
Holyhead	01.29	5.0	13.52	5.1	Southampton	01.51	4.3	14.11	4.2
Hull (Albert D)	09.39	7.8	21.54	7.8	Swansea	09.33	8.5	21.59	8.1
Ilfracombe	09.14	8.1	21.39	7.8	Tees	07.08	4.8	19.26	4.8
King's Lynn	09.39	5.9	21.56	5.9	Walton-on-N	02.48	3.9	15.18	3.9

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Hunstanton, Norfolk, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 07C (45F); highest rainfall: Boscombe Down, Wiltshire, 1.42in; highest sunshine: Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire, 5.1hr.

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6 1997

CBI sees ten-year rift with Tories over EMU

Turner: "we are in disagreement"

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

BUSINESS is likely to be at odds with the Conservatives for the next ten years because of William Hague's opposition to economic and monetary union, the head of the Confederation of British Industry says today.

The CBI's statement marks the biggest-ever gap between the traditional Conservative supporters in business and the Tory party. It signals the strong likelihood that business will back Labour at the next general election because of its declared readiness to join a single currency.

Adair Turner, Director-General of the CBI, says today that if the Conservatives maintain the Shadow Cabinet's policy of opposing Britain's participation in EMU for the next ten years then the CBI and business will be in clear disagreement for that period.

While this stops short of an open disassociation between business and the Conservatives, CBI leaders recognise that the difference between the two on EMU is now so fundamental that the division could become permanent unless the party changes its anti-EMU policy.

Speaking to *The Times* before the CBI's annual conference in Birmingham next week, Mr Turner says of EMU: "We disagree with the Conservative Party's policy, with the Shadow Cabinet majority on monetary union. There is no point beating about the bush on that: you take out our statement, you take out their statement excluding it for ten years — we are in disagreement."

Questioned whether that disagreement would last for that time, Mr Turner says: "Yes." He says: "We would prefer that the Conservative Party had not taken that attitude," adding: "We think it is wrong."

The CBI conference, beginning on Monday, will feature appearances by many Cabinet members, including the Prime Minister, and Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, as well as Mr Hague, the Conservative Party leader, and Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats.

Mr Turner says that the majority opinion of business and the CBI is in favour, and sees dangers in the Conservative Party's policy. Arguing that there will be times over the next ten years when it will be right for Britain to enter, he says that "therefore there are potential adverse consequences for our businesses and economy if you proceed on the policy of being definitely out for a period of ten years."

Mr Turner welcomes the debate in the party over EMU and says: "Our preference would for that debate to be resolved in a position where they kept their options open, rather than exclude their options."

CBI leaders will release poll evidence at the weekend showing clear majority support among business for Britain entering a single currency. Mr Turner today also welcomes the statement from Mr Brown last week making clear Labour's intention to join EMU, though he is critical of the confusion caused by off-the-record briefings on the Government's EMU position.

Leading article, page 21
Commentary, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4908.3	(+10.9)
Yield	3.30%	
FTSE All share	2322.11	(+5.18)
Nikkei	16448.05	(-52.05)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7698.22	(+9.09)*
S&P Composite	942.07	(+1.31)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	101[illegible]*	(101[illegible])
Yield	6.24%*	(6.25%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	7⅛%	(7[illegible]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	118[illegible]	(118[illegible])

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6777*	(1.6850)
London:		
$	1.6755	(1.6856)
DM	2.8872	(2.9010)
FFr	9.6698	(9.7164)
SFr	2.3570	(2.3680)
Yen	205.35	(205.40)
£ Index	102.4	(102.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7236*	(1.7225)
FFr	5.7715*	(5.7700)
SFr	1.4070*	(1.4035)
Yen	122.85*	(121.93)
$ Index	104.7	(104.5)

Tokyo close Yen 122.07

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan) $19.75 ($19.65)

GOLD

London close $314.25 ($315.55)

* denotes midday trading price

New brew

Whitbread, the brewing and leisure group, may export some of its brands to continental Europe.
Page 27

Millennium cost

REUTERS has said it will charge many of its clients for the cost of dealing with year 2000 computer problems.
Page 26

Saatchi sues

Saatchi & Saatchi is claiming more than £200,000 in fees from Vauxhall Motors for work as yet unpaid for.
Page 31

Pound and strike drag BA lower

By Jon Ashworth

BRITISH AIRWAYS vowed to put its "summer of discontent" behind it yesterday, as it revealed that the cabin crew strike and strong pound had taken a heavy toll of half-year profits.

Operating profits at BA tumbled 33 per cent to £341 million (£512 million) in the six months to September 30. Industrial action cost the airline £125 million, and £128 million was lost to the strong pound.

The sale of interests in US Airways and Galileo International netted an exceptional £157 million, leaving BA's pre-tax profits down 8.5 per cent at £430 million (£470 million).

Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, said underlying profitability had risen 14 per cent. Baggage performance had been unsatisfactory, but had shown "a substantial improvement" in the last seven weeks. Problems concerning lost and delayed baggage were linked to new security measures and the phasing in of new equipment at Heathrow.

Mr Ayling said relations with unions had improved since the industrial dispute. He said: "There is a very strong feeling round the table that the summer is now behind us. We now have to move forward." BA's business efficiency programme would deliver £200 million in savings this year. Mr Ayling said: "The future of our airline depends on our ability to compete."

He confirmed that BA was looking into launching a no-frills European carrier, but said no final decision had been taken. Earlier, Stelios Haji-Oiannou, founder and chairman of EasyJet, the low-cost airline, said he would consider a High Court challenge to any such move.

A record 21.8 million passengers flew with BA during the six months — about 120,000 a day. BA turnover was £4.46 billion (£4.39 billion). Earnings per share, fully diluted, were 28.8p (35.5p). There is an interim dividend of 4.7p (4.25p) a share.
Tempus, page 28

Ayling: looking ahead

Mayflower considers bidding for Vickers

By Adam Jones

VICKERS, which last week put its Rolls-Royce motor cars business up for sale, yesterday forced Mayflower Corporation into the open by saying the engineer was preparing a hostile bid.

Mayflower refused to deny the Vickers claim, admitting in a statement that it was "considering all its options which may or may not include an offer for Vickers".

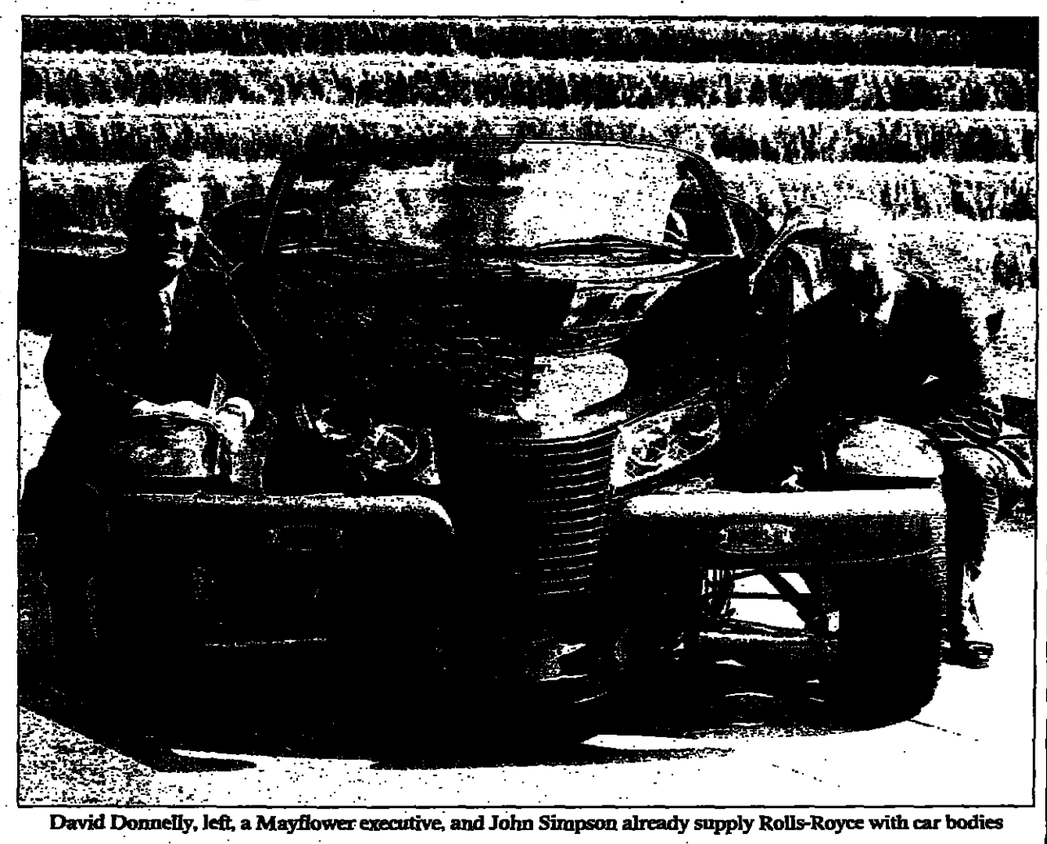
The bid had a dramatic effect on Mayflower, cutting its share price by 20p to 184½p and its market capitalisation to just £466 million. Vickers shares rose from 227½p to 248p, pushing up its market valuation to £830 million.

Vickers, which has been proceeding with a disposal programme designed to slim it to three core activities, has been on bid alert recently after takeover speculation.

It is thought to have discovered Mayflower's interest on Monday. It is also thought that Sir Colin Chandler, the chairman of Vickers, subsequently issued an ultimatum to Rupert Hambro, Mayflower's chairman, offering private talks if Mayflower ruled out a hostile bid. No such commitment was given, it is understood, and Vickers issued a statement to the market yesterday afternoon.

Mayflower is understood to have its eye on Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, which went on sale last week. Vickers has given a sales memorandum to Mayflower, which is supplying car bodies for the new model Rolls-Royce and Bentley. It alluded to this link in the statement, saying: "Mayflower already has close relationships with Rolls-Royce."

Mayflower is also thought to want Vickers' Cosworth engine and propulsion technology divisions. Industry sources were suggesting yesterday that, if a bid for the whole company succeeded, it would not keep the defence division, the products of which include the Challenger 2 tank.



David Donnelly, left, a Mayflower executive, and John Simpson already supply Rolls-Royce with car bodies

Mayflower is advised by BZW, the investment banking arm of Barclays which is in the process of being broken up. BZW was also adviser to BBA, the car components group, when it prepared an audacious bid for Lucas, its larger rival. BBA eventually abandoned its planned bid after news of it leaked out.

When Vickers said it was selling Rolls-Royce Motor Cars it said the business required a dedicated carmaker as owner. It said the investment required to develop new models was too much for a more broadly based company that could not utilise economies of scale.

BMW and Daimler-Benz duly became favourites to take over Rolls-Royce, which has a price tag estimated at £350 million to £500 million. BMW is supplying engines to the new Rolls-Royce and Bentley model. Daimler-Benz is developing its own luxury marque, Maybach, but a bid has been thought possible by observers.

One City analyst suggested that Mayflower believes it can grow Rolls-Royce by offering more versions of a particular model. The new owners of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars will still have to satisfy Rolls-Royce, the aero engines group that owns the name. Without its approval for ongoing use of the marque, the carmaker's value would plummet.

Mayflower and its chief executive, John Simpson, have enjoyed a meteoric rise since the group was created from a toy company "shell", called Triangle Trust, in 1989. Contracts now include making the body of the Rover MGF and the Land Rover Discovery. In the first half of 1997, it recorded profits of £16.1 million before tax, up from £10.2 million a year earlier, on a turnover of £192 million. It has recently started to diversify into aircraft design.

The group stumbled last year, however, when its £172 million bid for Clevite, a US company that makes suspension products, was trumped by Tenneco of the US.

Milestones, page 26
Commentary, page 27

Liffe wins clearance for City relocation

By Martin Waller

LIFFE, the futures and options trading market, has been cleared to move to Spitalfields on the northeast border of the City, after John Prescott, Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, said he would not intervene in the planning process.

His decision means Tower Hamlets, the local authority, can now decide on the planning applications for Spitalfields. Liffe and the council have already drawn up a scheme for a package of benefits for the local community valued at more than £18 million. In addition half of the existing market would be kept and refurbished.

The council's development sub-committee will meet within the next few weeks for a final decision on the site.

There had been suggestions that, if the Spitalfields development was blocked, Liffe might decide to relocate to Canary Wharf. Meanwhile a second big City employer, Chase Manhattan, the investment bank, has written to staff playing down suggestions that it, too, might be moving to the downriver development.

Figures complicate Bank rate decision

By Alasdair Murray, Economics Correspondent

THE Bank of England faces a tough interest rate decision today after data published yesterday showed the manufacturing and service sectors of economy growing at two very different speeds.

Manufacturing sector growth remains subdued with output rising just 0.2 per cent in October, leaving the annual growth rate at 1.5 per cent compared with 1.8 per cent in August.

But service sector growth accelerated sharply for the first time since May, according to a Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply survey.

The Bank of England monetary policy committee completes its monthly meeting this morning with economists forecasting that the Bank will shy away from a rate rise after recent stock market turbulence. But the consensus remains that the continuing evidence of strong service growth, combined with some signs of resilience in the manufacturing sector, will mean a further quarter-point rise before the end of the year.

Ciaran Barr, UK economist as Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, said: "Taken together the data paints a pretty punchy picture which is too much for comfort for the Bank of England."

The slight improvement in manufacturing output was led by strong growth in investment goods output, which economists said boded well for an improved performance in coming months. But this was offset by sharp falls in the output of wood and wood products and base metals.

Quarterly manufacturing growth, at 0.6 per cent, would, if maintained, leave the sector growing at around trend level despite sterling's strength. But overall industrial production declined 0.2 per cent, and the annual rate slipped to 1.5 per cent from 2.4 per cent in August as utilities output declined.

The CIPS survey showed overall business activity rising sharply in October, while new business also picked up for the first time since May. There were signs that companies are starting to struggle to match the pace of expansion, with a rise in the number of businesses reporting in staff shortages.

Falkland Islands ventures to float

By Adam Jones

THE Falkland Islands Group, the closest thing the South Atlantic territory has to a conglomerate, is to be listed on the London Stock Exchange, its debt-ridden parent company confirmed yesterday.

Anglo United, the fuels group, is to spin off its Falklands activities into a listed holding company, Falkland Islands Holdings, if shareholders agree.

Its interests on the islands include property, fishing support services, the Upland Goose hotel, six shops, a Land Rover dealership and a shipping line. Because of the islands' size, the ventures face limited competition, often from just one other company.

The Falkland Islands Company, one of three businesses in the Falkland Islands Group, was incorporated under royal charter in 1851. It was first listed on the London Stock Exchange in 1962, before being bought by Dundee, Perth and London Securities in 1972.

The Falkland businesses made an operating profit of £1.3 million last year on turnover of £10.8 million. Anglo United acquired them when it bought Coalite, the smokeless fuel manufacturer, for £500 million in 1989 in a highly-leveraged deal that eventually brought Anglo-United to its knees.

Shareholders will receive one share in the new company for every 300 in Anglo United. The new company, with £2 million in debt, is expected to enter the official list on January 19.

It is not clear how much the Falklands companies would be valued at on flotation. John Gainham, Anglo United's chief executive, said that he did not know what effect any future oil discoveries would have on them. The Falklands will be the centre of significant exploration from next spring.

Mr Gainham and Roger Wallace, another Anglo United director, will become owners of the residual Anglo businesses if the share swap is approved. Mr Gainham said the company's enormous debts would mean that the shell would remain valueless.

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هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Technical hitch halts share dealings

By Richard Miles
Banking Correspondent

CITY traders were left twiddling their thumbs for 45 minutes yesterday morning after a technical fault brought down the London Stock Exchange's new order-driven share dealing system.

Sets came on line as normal at 8.30am but screens froze within minutes because of a telecommunications glitch. Unable to see prices on the UK's top 100 stocks, dealers were forced to abandon trading until the resumption of service at 9.15am.

The Stock Exchange blamed the disruption on a faulty processor in the system supporting the London Market Information Link, which channels price data from Sets to dealing screens across the City.

A spokeswoman said it was the first problem with LMIL since its introduction in 1994. She added that there had been no breakdown in Sets, the order-driven system that has been much criticised by some brokers and dealers.

Martin Lupton, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, said: "We couldn't get any data so we didn't do anything. One gets these sort of glitches from time to time, but it wasn't terminal and the market wasn't particularly volatile."

The jury is out on whether Sets, launched less than three weeks ago, has been a success, though dealers said the technology had proved remarkably resilient prior to yesterday's breakdown. Volumes, however, have been on the low side, averaging just over a third of daily trades in FTSE 100 stocks.

Dealers continue to complain about unnaturally wide spreads on some stocks, especially at the lower end of the index where liquidity is much lower. Many traders say it will take at least three months to get to grips with the order-driven system.

CHRIS HARRIS

Steven Kent, left, and Andrew Vaughn forecast 1997 operating profits of at least £3.6 million for Workplace Technologies

Workplace to float with £50m value

By Martin Barrow

WORKPLACE Technologies, one of the UK's leading independent computer network integrators, will be valued at £50.7 million when its shares begin trading on the stock market next week, with the shares priced at 175p.

The flotation, by way of a placing sponsored by NatWest Markets, will raise £21.7 million, including £7.65 million for the company, formed via a management buyout from ICL in September 1995.

The directors, including Andrew Vaughn, managing director, and Steven Kent, finance director, forecast operating profits of not less than £3.6 million for 1997, up from £2.5 million in 1996.

After flotation, directors will own 12.1 per cent of the issued share capital. Trading in the shares is due to begin on November 12.

Reuters may charge clients to clear 'millennium bug'

By Fraser Nelson

REUTERS, the online information company, is to charge many of its institutional clients for correcting the millennium bug that threatens to paralyse its equipment in the year 2000.

The company, which yesterday detailed its approach to the problem, said that clients who need their computers changed overnight or at the weekend could be sent a bill for the privilege.

The move marks a distinct break from the industry norm, where companies usually agree that their customers should not be asked pay for the supplier's failure to plan for the date change.

Michael Hudson, marketing director, said that the majority of smaller clients would not be charged as the Reuters technicians would update their computers on top of other upgrades. However, he said urgent call-outs would be another matter.

"In a trading room, everything has to be done quickly and some of our clinets will want it done overnight so that when they come back in the morning, everything is tickety boo," he said. "Their people are skilled negotiators — that's what they do in their trading room all day long — so there will inevitably be some discussions about the fees."

The company, which started work on its millennium project last year, also declined to take the usual step of saying its computers will all work in time for the date change.

Mr Hudson said the problem was too complex, as the company relies on information gathered from 5,000 different suppliers and has a much more complicated task.

The City remained nervous about its prospects as the company refused to put a figure to the cost of the problem. It will bear the costs of sending packages to 50,000 of its clients by recorded delivery and making 100 of its 1,000 computer programs obsolete.

The details emerged as CRT, Britain's largest computer recruitment company, said it would recruit 2,000 staff to help it to combat the millennium bug. It is offering to send novices on a £10,000 computer course and pay them between £10,000 and £40,000 a year.

The company, which already employs 2,200 staff and has arranged placements for 5,000, is spending £70 million on the millennium bug and has promsied to find jobs for its new recruits when the problem passes.

The millennium problem will affect computers which read years by two digits only, and will throw up an error message when told that "00" comes after the year "99".

Oftel attacks WorldCom

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

WORLDCOM, the US telecoms company that challenged BT's global expansion with a bid for MCI, its intended partner, has been attacked by the UK regulator for holding back customer information.

Don Cruickshank said customers were being disadvantaged by its failure to reveal quality of service information. He highlighted WorldCom, along with Colt, Eurobell and Global One as companies that have not provided quality of service information voluntarily. Mr Cruickshank said: "A failure to provide quality of service information puts customers at a disadvantage and may undermine the efforts of the majority of the UK telecoms industry to enhance this already valuable, voluntary initiative to improve information given to customers."

WorldCom said it would provide the information in the new year.

Accountancy chief quits

By Robert Bruce

ANDREW COLQUHOUN, chief executive of the English Institute of Chartered Accountants, has resigned, leaving the organisation in crisis.

Chris Laine, the ICA's president, read its council meeting a statement that disclosed that Mr Colquhoun had resigned on Tuesday and accepted "a voluntary severance package". Although the pay-off's size was not given, it is thought to approach £400,000.

Rumours had been rife that Mr Colquhoun was on his way out after it became clear that the independent Gerrard report into the ICA's affairs had pointed the way towards a more active director-general post. However, matters dragged on for more than a month while Mr Colquhoun and senior officers held secret talks and the world outside and most institute staff were told that he was "absent, ill".

Accountancy, page 30

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Pension managers lag smaller rivals

THE performance of Britain's biggest pension fund managers has lagged that of their smaller rivals in the past nine months, according to a survey by CAPS, the actuarial consultancy. Mercury Asset Management, which manages more than £4.6 billion of client money in its main fund, was placed 68 out of 71 with a return of 14.5 per cent, compared to 23.5 per cent at Baillie Gifford, the best-performing house.

Schroders and PDFM fared little better, placed 61st and 64th, respectively. CAPS attributed the poor showing of the big pension fund managers to their decision to go underweight in equities. Gartmore, which was placed 65th, more than doubled its third-quarter exposure to cash, said CAPS.

Colloids plant for US

ALLIED COLLOIDS GROUP, the UK chemicals company, is to invest £45 million in a major expansion in America. Colloids is to build a new cationic monomer plant at the Arkansas site of CPS Chemicals, the business it bought in January 1997, at a cost of £25 million. In addition, a plant with capacity for 20,000 tonnes per year of powder grade flocculant will be built at Colloids's Virginia site at a cost of £20 million. Colloids's shares rose 14½p to 117p.

Barclays strike day

BARCLAYS staff will stage their third one-day strike on Friday in a continuing dispute over pay and pensions. Unifi, which represents 45,000 Barclays workers, said it anticipated a good turnout from its members. Two earlier strikes in October resulted in the 24-hour closure of about 200 branches. Unifi and the Banking Insurance & Finance Union (Bifu) argue that the introduction of a new performance-related grading system will result in a pay and pensions freeze for 25,000 workers.

ITT reviews Hilton bid

THE board of ITT Corp, the leisure group that is the subject of a takeover battle, met last night to review for the first time an offer from Hilton Hotels. The ITT directors, who were labelled "incompetent" by Hilton, could voluntarily hand over control of the entire group as early as next week after fighting tooth-and-nail for ten months. Shareholders look increasingly likely to elect a Hilton-picked board at the annual meeting next Wednesday. Hilton raised its bid this week to counter a rival offer from Starwood Lodgings.

NatWest's euro move

A NEW bank account for British businesses that want to use the euro currency is unveiled today by NatWest. The new account, with a range of euro products and services, will be available early next year ahead of the 1999 official launch of the euro. Companies will be able to arrange loans in euros, make deposits in the new currency and use the accounts for their international business. Among those expected to use the euro account are exporters that currently have separate accounts in German marks and French francs for their European trade.

Daniels buys Sun-Ripe

CYRIL REED, chairman of S Daniels, is making his seventh acquisition since taking over the running of the small food manufacturing company two years ago. Daniels is paying up to £2.85 million for Sun-Ripe, which supplies fruit salads and fruit juices to sandwich shops and hotels, including chains run by Granada and Holiday Inns. The full price depends on Sun-Ripe making a £282,000 pre-tax profit this year; it made £88,000 last year on sales of £6 million. Mr Reed said that Sun-Ripe fits well with Johnsons Fresh Products, bought last year.

Test results lift Cortecs

SHARES in Cortecs International jumped 26p, to 202½p, yesterday as investors had their first chance to respond to positive news at the drug development company's annual meeting on Tuesday evening. Glen Travers, chairman, reported "very encouraging" results from trials of a capsule version of insulin on six diabetes patients. Lower blood sugar levels were seen in those taking the Cortecs drug. "We believe these early data present the real possibility of improving therapy for diabetics," Mr Travers said.

Robert Walters expands

ROBERT WALTERS, the UK recruitment consultancy serving the finance and IT sectors, is expanding in Australia with the acquisition of ACL Tristar and Tristar Personnel for a total of A$12.67 million (£5.36 million). Tristar, based in Melbourne, is one of Australia's leading IT recruitment companies, with clients including IBM, NCR, BP, Fujitsu and Coles Meyer. In the year to June 30 the business earned an adjusted operating profit of A$1.58 million on sales of A$37.82 million.

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Stationery Office

Milestones in the life of Vickers

Chris Ayres looks back at the history of one of the world's most famous defence groups, now under fire from Mayflower

VICKERS was born in 1828 as a Sheffield steel business, under the name of Naylor, Hutchinson, Vickers & Company. The driving force behind the company was Edward Vickers, a brilliant engineer. In the 1860s, his two sons, Albert and Tom, took over the company.

The renamed Vickers Sons & Company went on to become one of the world's most successful engineering and armaments companies. It played a key role in the technical history of the 20th century and became an international symbol of Britain's manufacturing excellence, before the industry's decline in the 1970s.

In 1905, the company built the world's first submarine, a valuable blueprint for the vessels used in the First World War. Vickers also produced the world's first production tank.

The company made history again in 1919, when Sir John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Brown used an aircraft manufactured by the company to make the world's first non-stop flight across the Atlantic. In the 1920s, Vickers strengthened its business by merging with Armstrong Whitworth, the rival engineering and armaments group, and in 1929 it built Britain's first airship.

The Spitfire was a mark of British wartime resilience

During the Second World War, Vickers designed and built the Spitfire aircraft, which made its maiden flight in 1936 and went on to become an icon of British resilience.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Vickers saw Governments fight over the nationalisation and privatisation of its steel operations. During the height of the Cold War, in the 1960s, the company built Britain's first nuclear submarine, HMS Dreadnought and launched its first range of airliners.

Vickers expanded by forming a medical division and an office equipment division — which it later sold — and in the 1980s bought Rolls-Royce, the carmaker. The 100,000th vehicle was completed in 1985.

Vickers expanded again in 1986 with the purchase of Royal Ordnance in Leeds, which it coverted into a tank factory modelled on its plant in Newcastle. Two years later, Vickers won the contract to develop the Challenger 2 tank.

Sir Colin Chandler was appointed managing director of the company in 1990, the year in which Cosworth Engineering, the racing enginemaker, was bought.

Orders flooded in for Challenger tanks, and Sir Colin became chief executive. In 1994, the company revealed its collaboration with BMW for the next generation of Bentley and Rolls-Royce models. Today, Vickers employs more than 10,000 people, and has sales of about £1.2 billion.

BANK OF ENGLAND EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.48	2.30	Malta	0.674	0.615
Austria Sch	21.29	19.83	Netherlds Gld	3.446	3.151
Belgium Fr	62.75	57.79	New Zealand $	2.83	2.59
Canada $	2.468	2.280	Norway Kr	12.39	11.45
Cyprus Cyp£	0.893	0.821	Portugal Esc	307.03	285.00
Denmark Kr	11.58	10.69	S Africa Rd	8.77	7.81
Finland Mkk	9.24	8.49	Spain Pta	255.29	236.50
France Fr	10.14	9.38	Sweden Kr	13.41	12.31
Germany Dm	3.05	2.81	Switzerland Fr	2.51	2.29
Greece Dr	479	440	Turkey Lira	315941	286063
Hong Kong $	13.76	12.58	USA $	1.779	1.638
Iceland	128	108			
Ireland Pt	1.17	1.08			
Israel Shk	6.22	5.57			
Italy Lira	3004	2787			
Japan Yen	220.23	202.70			

Rates for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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All the president's men?

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

The mouthpieces of the CBI have a tendency to indicate that they speak on behalf of British business. This is not entirely true. In fact, on some occasions, they seem in danger of vocalising the thoughts of just a few near professional committee-sitters. In his latest utterances on the subject of business and the Conservative Party, Adair Turner may well be summarising the views of important CBI members, but it is highly doubtful that they all feel so strongly on the EMU issue that they foresee a potential ten-year split from the Tories. Some CBI members are actually likely to feel the opposite, and to feel it sufficiently strongly to be wondering whether they really ought to be continuing to pay their subscriptions to this organisation.

Reconciling the views encompassed within a sprawling membership organisation is the perennial problem for those who choose to work for them. Actors may be well advised never to work with children or animals, but working for a committee can drive many sensible beings to consider a radical change of career. Mr Turner, the CBI's Director-General, faces that problem writ large, for the CBI is riddled with committees. The most important is the President's Committee, a 40-strong battery of big names atop which sits the omnipresent Sir Colin Marshall.

Sir Colin has left few in doubt of his pro-Europe and single currency views: last week he was putting the good citizens of New York in the picture. Among the members of his committee is Unilever chairman Niall FitzGerald, whose enthusiastic espousal of the single currency cause has enlivened many a business gathering. The strength of his feelings on the subject are such as to deter most of his listeners from daring to dissent.

Mr Turner may have discerned from his sessions with these, his more vociferous employers, that their's is the view of the business community. From this position, he may have taken it upon himself to predict an inevitable rift with the Tory party. But this is to ignore the fact that, outside the confines of the President's Committee, there are many business leaders who are not unhappy with the William Hague line on EMU.

Next week, at the CBI's own conference, this may become apparent. Sir Stanley Kalms, the chairman of Dixons, is bravely going to speak in the same EMU debate as Niall FitzGerald. Sir Stanley does not share the views of the president and, as a stalwart supporter of the Conservative Party, it is unlikely that he fears the decade of division that Mr Turner foresees.

Those who share Sir Stanley's views rather than those of Mr Turner may not be brave enough to voice them in Birmingham next week, but they have the weapon of the wallet at hand. The Institute of Directors has qualms about EMU and has voiced them. Maybe retaining both memberships will seem increasingly hard to justify — and the choice of which to continue might not be automatic.

Mayflower offers view of new world

Sir Colin Chandler is probably tempted to tell Mayflower Corporation to "get your tanks off my lawn". It seems that he regards Mayflower as little more than a bunch of parvenu panel beaters, and it is Vickers that has the tanks. But the panel beaters have hit on the bright idea of selling those, and the rest of Vickers' dismal defence businesses, to someone like GKN, to win the prize of Rolls-Royce.

On the face of it Mayflower has an attractive proposition. John Simpson, captain of the Mayflower, may look like a Russian baddie in a James Bond movie, but that is propably an advantage in the motor trade. And Rupert Hambro, his chairman, knows how to spot an opportune move: note the timing and price level at which he sold Hambro Magan to National Westminster.

Together the pair have worked wonders in turning the old Triang toy maker into one of the most dynamic companies in the motor sector. By comparison, the performance of Vickers looks sickly.

Mayflower can fly the "keep Rolls-Royce British" flag with some confidence. The company also has big ideas for the Cosworth motor racing side and the propulsion businesses of Vickers. The question is whether it can afford to do all of this. Even selling the tanks would leave Mayflower having to fund a deal worth double its £550 million market capitalisation. And Vickers has earmarked a massive investment programme for the new generation of Rolls-Royces.

Mayflower argues that it can update the Rolls-Royce range much more cheaply, tweaking the design rather than making wholesale changes. After all, Porsche has managed to keep its 911 range going for decades with a similar policy. People buy Rolls-Royces as status symbols, and the marque is having a record year despite its ageing designs.

But BMW and Mercedes Benz did not build world-beating brands by merely tweaking designs. They spend hundreds of millions on development so that their cars hold their position in the market.

Sir Colin will claim that Rolls-Royce really needs to be owned by a car manufacturer willing to invest heavily in the brand. But his strategy of selling RR to concentrate on defence concedes the pressing need for the rationalisation of the defence industry. Mayflower can argue that it's intention is merely to help to accomplish that by another route.

An unappealing derivative

Derivatives can be a tricky business: just ask NatWest Markets, Barings and their scarred City colleagues. So members of BZW's equities derivatives team should not have been too suprised to learn on Tuesday that their operation has been excluded from the proposed deal with Credit Suisse First Boston.

Barclays made the reason for the derivatives team's exclusion quite plain. Any tie-up with CSFB would have resulted in a 100 per cent overlap, said chief executive Martin Taylor. His official line now is to seek a separate buyer for this awkward bit of BZW.

But traders yesterday said it was highly unlikely that Barclays would find anyone with a serious interest, not least because a bidder would need a crystal ball to know what was being bought. It can take years for any problems to emerge from the woodwork, as NatWest found. Added to this are strong indications that BZW's derivatives team has had a ropey 12 months. With no significant presence in the US market, it has gone long on warrants at a time of great market volatility. The word on the street is that BZW might have caught a cold in Hong Kong over the past few weeks.

Barclays may end up wrapping equities derivatives into Barclays Capital, the debt business. More probably, the bank will simply close it down. Some of the BZW team have already lined up other jobs, although one bank is known to have turned up its nose at the candidates.

Slow reaction

FOR a company in the business of selling information and technology, Reuters is emerging as disconcertingly slow in realising the potential problems inherent in the dawning of the year 2000. Its hopes of persuading customers to carry the cost look equally inept and doomed to disappointment. The Millennium time bomb is a reality, and Reuter's refusal to try and quantify the cost of defusing it does nothing to reassure investors.

Whitbread considers overseas expansion

By Dominic Walsh

WHITBREAD, the brewing and leisure group, may export some of its UK hotel and restaurant brands to continental Europe.

Unveiling the group's half-year results yesterday, David Thomas, chief executive, said: "We are looking hard at taking Travel Inn and David Lloyd Leisure overseas. We know that the consumer in Northern Europe will be attracted to them, but it's a question of whether we can get the returns given that property prices and labour costs are higher."

Mr Thomas hinted that the Café Rouge concept might also do well in Germany, where Whitbread already has more than 60 steak outlets under the Churrasco and Maredo brands.

However, Mr Thomas emphasised that the UK would remain the focus, and that its existing portfolio of brands had sufficient growth potential to fulfill Whitbread's ambitions for the next three to five years.

In the half year to August 30 the group forked out £226 million on capital expenditure, opening 101 new retail outlets at a cost of £94 million. The full-year target is for 250 new outlets and a total capex of £450 million. "We are opening a new hotel every ten days and a new restaurant every four days," said Mr Thomas. "We'll be creating 6,000 jobs during the course of this year."

David Thomas will look abroad if the returns are right

Rapid expansion allied to tighter cost controls helped the group to an 11.6 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits before exceptionals, at £198 million, on turnover 8.4 per cent higher at £1.63 billion. Return on capital has improved from 13.5 per cent to 14.2 per cent.

All the company's divisions posted double-digit profit rises with the exception of Whitbread Pub Partnerships, its portfolio of tied leased pubs. Operating profit dipped 3 per cent to £31.7 million, largely because of the disposal of a large chunk of the bottom end of the estate.

Mr Thomas admitted that he might consider selling the business if he was offered "a very, very good price", but he added: "It's a very good cash generator, a very good outlet for our beer brands and a shop window for our brands."

Even brewing performed ahead of expecations, lifting profits 13 per cent to £28.9 million on turnover 2 per cent ahead at £527 million. Beer volumes improved 2.4 per cent in a market down by 0.8 per cent, and Whitbread lifted its market share to an all-time high of 15.6 per cent. The best brand was Stella Artois, which grew 28 per cent by volume.

One of the biggest successes has been the Travel Inn budget hotel brand, which has left Granada's Forte Travelodge trailing in its wake. It currently has 167 units, with another 47 sites in the pipeline, and has lifted average occupancy to its highest ever level of 87 per cent — four points up on this time last year.

Earnings per share rose from 27.1p to 31.12p and an interim dividend of 6.82p (6.25p) will be paid on January 19. There is a scrip dividend alternative.

Tempus, page 28

Ladbroke sells hotels for £50m

By Dominic Walsh

LADBROKE, owner of the Hilton International chain, is to reap more than £50 million from the sale of three of the unbranded three-star hotels put up for sale this year.

The group confirmed yesterday that it had exchanged contracts to sell the Plaza on Hyde Park in London to Regent Corporation, part of Malayan United Industries, of Malaysia, for £44 million in cash. The 402-bedroom hotel is valued at £43.2 million by Ladbroke.

Ladbroke has also sold the Balmer Lawn Hotel in the New Forest for £3.4 million and is close to selling the Linton Lodge Hotel in Oxford for just under £5 million through Christie & Co, the agent.

ScottishPower in competition talks

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

SCOTTISHPOWER is to hold last-minute talks with the electricity regulator over his proposals for competition in domestic supply.

The meetings take place only days before Stephen Littlechild, head of Offer, will formalise his plans and reflect concern in the industry over the implementation of competition from next year.

Ian Robertson, ScottishPower chief executive, said that a number of issues "need further discussion", but that he believed that solutions could be found.

Offer needs to secure electricity companies' agreement on licence proposals and price controls for supply. Any rebellion would threaten the tight timetable for competition, intended to start rolling out in phases by next April.

ScottishPower said that competition in electricity and gas is central to its strategy as a multi-utility. The company, which generates and distributes electricity in Scotland and owns Manweb, the northwest England regional electricity company, and Southern Water, aims to win 15 per cent of the UK electricity market by 2000. It wants 12 per cent of the gas market and 10 per cent of the Scottish telecom market.

ScottishPower pre-tax profits rose 44 per cent, to £240 million, in the half year to September 30, boosted by the contribution of Southern Water and by disposals. Underlying profit growth was about 15 per cent. A 6.8p interim dividend, up 10 per cent, is due on March 6.

☐ Dr Eileen Marshall, Ofgas's chief economic adviser, is to head the review into electricity trading announced by the Government.

Colt plans to expand as sales leap

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

COLT TELECOM, the telecoms business with operations in London, Paris and Germany, is planning a £190 million spending programme backed by the issue of new shares and bonds.

The company yesterday announced plans to raise £90 million in shares and £100 million in notes to finance development and expansion. By the end of this year, Colt, which operates in Frankfurt, Munich and Hamburg, will offer services in Berlin and plans to go to Zurich, Brussels, Madrid and other German markets next year.

Yesterday Colt reported a 144 per cent jump in sales for the nine months to September 30 at £55 million. Operating costs rose from £10.3 million to £24.9 million. Pre-tax losses in the third quarter were £9.1 million (£2.1 million).

Microsoft to link up with US West

From Oliver August in New York

MICROSOFT, which is facing possible draconian fines from the US Government for alleged monopoly abuses, is tightening its grip on the future of the computer sector with a $1 billion (£600 million) alliance with US West, America's third largest cable television company.

The deal, an acquisition of 6 per cent of US West stock, is said to be scheduled for announcement next month.

In June, Microsoft agreed to pay $1 billion for an 11 per cent stake in Comcast, another cable company. A $1 billion deal with Telecommunications, another cable company, is under negotiation.

Bill Gates, Microsoft's executive chairman, believes the cable network, is ideally suited to becoming the delivery mechanism for high-speed electronic commerce and communication. By buying into the sector now, Mr Gates is attempting to win control of the software used in digital television set-top boxes needed to link the television to the Internet.

US West last month announced it was spinning off its cable television interests to concentrate on its local and long-distance telephone business. The move was seen as an admission that the merging of the telephony sector and the television sector has become unrealistic.

Microsoft will next month face the US Justice Department in a federal court over licensing agreements of its Internet software. Investigators are alleging that Microsoft is acting to protect its monopoly and are seeking a $1 million-a-day fine if the company fails to act.

Bovis promises 60% advance

By Paul Durman

BOVIS HOMES, the housebuilding company that P&O is floating, is setting out to attract City investors with a promise of a 60 per cent rise in this year's profits.

Bovis, which P&O has owned since 1974, is forecasting a pre-tax profit of £37.1 million, up from £23.3 million last year. This year's total is ten times the amount Bovis made only three years ago.

Malcolm Harris, chief executive, believes the housing market will continue to make steady progress next year, helped by stable interest rates, falling unemployment and earnings that are rising faster than house prices. He said Bovis's large landbank will enable it to avoid having to pay high prices for development land.

It has been suggested that Bovis will command a value of between £250 million and £300 million. With earnings of £25.4 million, the lower figure would imply a price-earnings ratio of less than 10, significantly less than similar up-market housebuilders.

Bovis is being floated via a placing that will include a large issue of new shares to repay an interest-free loan of £176 million to P&O which will not retain a holding in Bovis. The housebuilder recently paid a £29 million dividend to its parent.

Mr Harris and six executive directors will use bonuses totalling £300,000 to acquire shares at the placing price. They also intend to apply for further shares.

Bovis completed 1,560 sales in the first nine months of the year at an average price of £95,000. It managed 1,355 in the same period last year.

Sanderson takes over rival

By Fraser Nelson

SANDERSON BRAMALL is to become one of the country's top five motor dealers after agreeing a £37.4 million takeover bid of Charles Sidney, a publicly-quoted rival.

The company, which is currently ranked ninth in the UK, will take over Charles Sidney's Mercedes and Toyota-Lexus dealerships in North Yorkshire and Scotland, creating an enlarged group with annual sales approaching £950 million and profits of £19 million. Raymond Edwards, who became chief executive of Charles Sidney four years ago, is to leave the company with a £200,000 payoff, after agreeing to sell his remaining shares for £180,000.

Sanderson Brammall is offering a combination of cash and shares that values each Sidney share at 90p. Yesterday the shares, which have lost around 30 per cent of their value over the past 12 months, rose 1p to 86½p. Sanderson Bramall shares rose 5½p to 226½p.

Tim Kluczkowski, analyst at Granville Davis, said: "This deal definitely catapaults Sanderson into the premier league of car dealers, with the likes of Reg Vardy and Dixon Motors. It has been looking to increase its exposure to prestige marques for some time now, and this deal seems an excellent fit."

Other analysts said that the deal makes better strategic sense than a takeover of Appleyard, which Sanderson was considering last summer. Charles Sidney's Mercedes distribution business is considered to be the jewel in the company's portfolio, as the German car manufacturer intends to keep down dealerships and expand existing outlets. The deal marks the end of Charles Sidney's chequered history as a quoted company.

هكذا من الاصل

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Pilkington recovery hopes shattered by French rival

HOPES that **Pilkington**, Britain's biggest glass-maker, could sustain its recent recovery tack were dealt a shattering blow after Saint-Gobain, its main rival, announced plans to begin production in this country.

Saint-Gobain said it intended to begin production of float glass in Britain before the end of the century. Brokers said this would force Pilkington to scrap the recent price rises and cause further overcapacity.

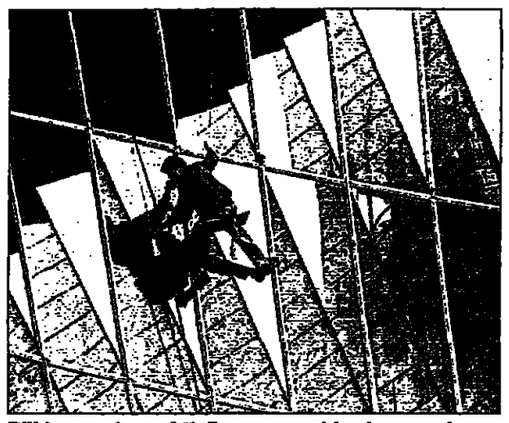
Pilkington responded with a fall of 17p to 131p, as a massive 43.3 million shares changed hands. Paolo Scaroni, the recently appointed chief executive, used this as an opportunity to purchase a maiden holding of 300,000 shares at 132p. But his act of faith cut little ice with some of the big broking houses, which began issuing "sell" recommendations to shareholders.

Yesterday's modest rise in the FTSE 100 index of 10.9 to 4,908.3 belied another volatile performance by share prices generally. It all began with a breakdown in Sets, the new order driven trading system, which prevented brokers from inputting prices at the start of the day. This led to big swings in prices as the spreads widened.

At one stage the index was ahead 50 points, but this soon gave way to a fall of 34 points before an opening rise on Wall Street enabled the London market to put in a late rally. A respectable 819 million shares had traded by the close of business.

Allied Colloids put in a late run, jumping 14½p to 117p after the company moved to quell rumours that the effects of a strong pound would force it to issue a profits warning soon. The group said trading had been in line with expectations and it was embarking on a major expansion programme.

Vickers was among the best performing shares among the top 250 companies with a leap of 20½p, or 9.01 per cent, to 248p after it emerged that the company had been told it may soon find itself on the receiving end of a hostile bid from **Mayflower Corporation**, the fast growing engineering group, down 15p at 189½p. Mayflower, which makes panels for the MG sports car, is said to be keen to acquire Rolls-Royce, the luxury motor car manufacturer. Instead of paying the expected £400 million asking price, it may be pondering the idea of bidding for the entire company, which at these levels is worth £862 million. Mayflower these days carries a price tag of £515 million. Only last week Vickers announced that it had put Rolls-Royce up for sale and was expected to attract bidders from around the world. **Rolls-Royce**, the aero engine maker, drew strength from a "buy" recommendation from HSBC James Capel, the broker, to rise 6½p at 222p.



Pilkington shares fell 17p as competition became clearer

Reckitt & Colman continued to suffer from its exposure to growth nations in Asia and Latin America with a loss of 13p at 875p. The shares have fallen from a peak of £10.27 in recent weeks.

Elsewhere in the engineering sector, **Mckechnie** fell 18½p to 478½p amid suggestions that Cazenove, the company's own broker, had switched its recommendation for the shares from a "buy" to a "hold".

Stock shortages continue to drive **Storehouse** sharply higher, with the price finishing 7p better at 235p on turnover of 2.25 million shares.

Marks & Spencer continued to reflect on a disappointing set of interim figures on Tuesday, with a fall of 13p at 587p. Next was up another 6p at 740p.

Earlier this week M&S announced details of a £2.1 billion expansion programme. One company expected to benefit is **Northern Foods**, one of M&S's main suppliers. Its shares rose 7½p to 238p.

Provend Group, Britain's biggest vending machine operator, rose 3½p to 143½p after landing a string of major contracts with a number of blue-chip companies. The deals have a combined value of £4 million.

Barclays Bank touched £15.55 before closing 31p dearer at £15.31 in spite of its apparent failure to sell its BZW investment banking arm as a single unit. Credit Suisse First Boston apparently wants to buy the equity side of the business, but not the derivatives side. Brokers are hopeful that a deal can be concluded before the weekend.

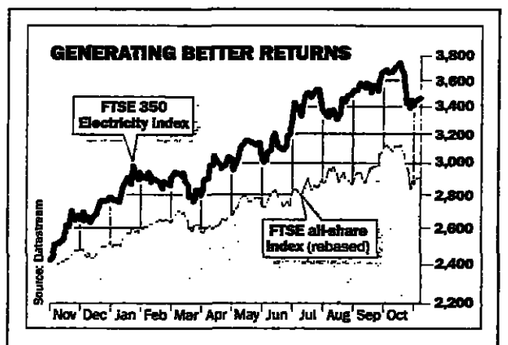
Encouraging results from trials of its new insulin treatment, Macrulin, enabled **Cortecs International** to stand out with a leap of 27p to 203½p

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Bond prices across Europe took their lead from the overnight sell-off in New York, with prices drifting lower in thin trading. In London, prices traded in narrow limits as investors waited to see if the Bank of England independent monetary committee raised interest rates.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt finished five ticks lower at £118 11/32 after trading in a band of just five points all day.

Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 was £⅛ down at £118, while Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was five ticks off at £101 3/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Listless trading in the morning left the Dow Jones industrial average 9.09 points ahead at 7,698.22 by midday.



SCOTTISHPOWER, up 2p at 439½p, kicked off the reporting season for the power generators with half-year figures that were given the seal of approval from most brokers.

The electricity sector has outperformed the rest of the market by 16 per cent this year. But confidence has been shaken by the pool price review.

Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, believes the the review will be reasonably benign. Angelos Anastasiou at Laing says its impact on the industry remains unclear but reckons the faint hearted should avoid the generators. "But there could be rich pickings for those willing to ride the storm," he adds.

Anastasiou calculates that the average nominal interim dividend growth for the sector will be about 10 per cent. This varies from 7 per cent in the case of British Energy, down 12p at 374p, to 15 per cent for PowerGen, 12p dearer at 690p.

Those making it on to the "buy" list include Scottish-Power, National Power, up 5½p at 511½p, and Energy Group, 11p better at 626p.

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	7698.22 (+9.09)
S&P Composite	942.07 (+1.31)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	16448.05 (-52.05)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	10681.75 (+99.03)

Amsterdam:

AEX Index	878.54 (+9.59)

Sydney:

AO	2545.80 (-5.80)

Frankfurt:

DAX	3866.68 (+54.23)

Singapore:

Straits	1700.02 (-13.74)

Brussels:

General	13498.91 (+64.15)

Paris:

CAC-40	2822.42 (+47.52)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1162.0 (+6.8)

London:

FT 30	3189.6 (+9.7)
FTSE 100	4908.3 (+10.9)
FTSE 250	4686.8 (+12.0)
FTSE 350	2371.5 (+5.4)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2539.62 (-19.61)
FTSE All-Share	2322.11 (+5.19)
FTSE Non Financials	2352.65 (+1.48)
FTSE Fixed Interest	132.27 (-0.09)
FTSE Govt Secs	99.80 (-0.11)
Bargains	47588
SEAQ Volume	819.1m
US$	1.6756 (-0.0098)
German Mark	2.8872 (-0.0130)
Exchange Index	102.4 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4695
£:SDR	1.2169
RPI 159.3 Sep (3.6%) Jan 1987=100	
RPIX 157.8 Sep (2.7%) Jan 1987=100	

Asset Mngmt Zero	101½	...
BG 'B'	29½	- 1
Buckland Inv Wrts	10	...
Buckland Invstmnts	17½	...
Holmes Place	170	...
Larchways (155)	165½	- 2
Leicester City	92½	...
Marlborough Intl	102½	...
Metalsrussia	86½	+ 1
NSB Retail Sys	167½	...
Newsquest (250)	240	+ 5½
Nottingham Frst (70)	60	- ½
Nycomed Aim N/V	2180	...
SHL Group	281½	...
Solitaire	190½	...
Ultraframe	177½	...
Weather Action	87½	- 1
Xaar	110	...

Alvis Units n/p	15	- 1½
Azian n/p (37)	16	- 7½
Country Gdns n/p	3	- 2½
Jourdan T n/p (45)	1½	- 1
Lavendon n/p (265)	37½	...
Quicks n/p (115)	5½	- 2
Recognition n/p	2½	- 1½

RISES:

Cortecs	203½p (+27p)
Allied Colloids	117p (+14½p)
Vickers	248p (+20½p)
Br Airways	603p (+27p)
Colt Telecom	537p (+22½p)
Capital Radio	492p (+18½p)
Com Union	857p (+23p)
Royal & Sun Al	600p (+14p)
Danka Bs Sys	576p (+12p)
Cable Wireless	483p (+10p)
Devro	388½p (+14p)

FALLS:

Pilkington	131p (-17p)
Rentokil Int	243p (-12p)
Biocomps Intl	585p (-22½p)
Stanley Leis	285½p (-10p)
BTG	675p (-20p)
Marks Spencer	567p (-13p)
Reckitt Colm	875p (-13p)
Br Petroleum	871p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 33

Heavy skies

WHAT do you make of a company that runs a service business with poor industrial relations, sells a commodity product and has hugely ambitious expansion plans? New entrants are attempting to steal its customers at the bottom end of the market while a strike and customer service problem seriously eroded confidence among top-paying clients. In the midst of all this mayhem, British Airways blithely continues to proclaim to the world that all is right: the alliance with American airlines will go ahead and plans to set up a bargain-basement airline have been mooted.

Any investor who feels nervous is not alone. British Airways produced statistics yesterday that posed as many questions as it answered. Traffic was up 3 per cent but the load factor was down and the critical premium-paying passenger traffic was still behind the main cabin. BA blames all this on the strike and points to confidence returning. Yet there are further worries about margins. Costs rose sharply in the half year, up 6 per cent — four times the rate of revenue growth — which the company blames on expenditure on aircraft and improved services. Yet, at the same time BA trumpets that £200 million will be save this year, part of its £1 billion performance improvement goal.

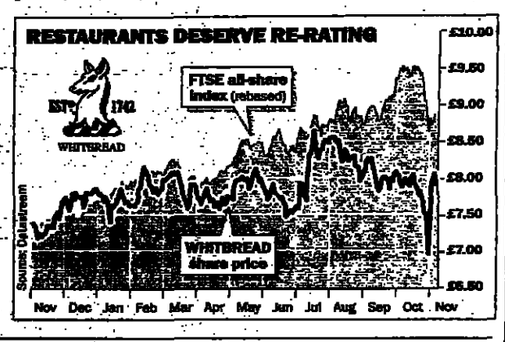
BA is generous with the big numbers but for investors they remain meaningless. You might search forever for a reconciliation of the £200 million saving and the profits and remain none the wiser. Meanwhile, BA plans another assault on EasyJet and the discounters. There are safer investments; leave BA to its spin-doctors.

Whitbread

THE biggest challenge facing Whitbread's new chief executive is to dispel suspicions that the group paid too much for its leisure interests and yesterday he was at pains to point out that recent deals had been earnings enhancing in the half year and were outperforming the competition. His message: strong brands will prosper at the expense of the weak.

Mr Thomas is conspicuously well prepared for this role. In his previous job, as head of the company's leisure division, he masterminded acquisitions such as David Lloyd Leisure, Costa Coffee and the Marriott hotel franchise. The crucial factor, of course, will be continued expansion and Whitbread's ability to find cheap sites. For the time being, things look good: Café Rouge is acquiring a national presence and the Travel Inn budget hotel chain is streets ahead of Forte Travelodge. And David Lloyd should double in size in three to four years. The group is frequently called on to anchor new developments. On the pubs side, Whitbread has avoided the pitfall of underinvestment that has knocked Greenalls Group. Letting the side down was Pub Partnerships, although if Mr Thomas loses interest he can always suggest a deal to Nomura.

In the wake of recent market gyrations and nervousness caused by Greenalls's woes, the stock sits at an unwarranted 13 per cent discount to the market.



ScottishPower

SCOTTISHPOWER'S greatest talent is not managing utilities but managing the expectations of investors. Having blazed the trail for multi-utilities, the company is curiously modest in its ambitions. ScottishPower snapped up Manweb before vertical integration became politically sensitive and then acquired Southern Water. Using the new customers as a springboard, it hopes to sell both gas and electricity as these are opened to competition.

The free-for-all is on its way and ScottishPower should be champing at the bit, but the company is setting itself fairly low targets. With access to one in five British households, it hopes to secure 15 per cent of the electricity market by 2000, from a base of 11 per cent. And with 6 per cent of the gas market — courtesy of weak competition in Scotland — it hopes to gain 12 per cent by 2000.

However, false modesty is ScottishPower's way. It is adept at setting targets that it then beats quite comprehensively, imbuing investors with a warm glow when the results are announced. A similar line was taken with the forecast cost-savings in Manweb and Southern Water. A marketing alliance with the AA is to be followed by two more partners in the next few months. With the help of powerful brands, it could well exceed its own goals.

Competitive energy markets are new to Britain, but there is little on the horizon to upset ScottishPower's grand plan and the shares are a buy.

Falkland Islands

THE FIRST THING to be said about Falkland Islands Holdings is that it has no stake in oil exploration. The second important fact about the company is that without a significant oil discovery in the area, FIH will never amount to more than a hill of beans.

After the demerger from Anglo United, FIH will have net assets of £800,000 and £2 million of borrowings. Banks will have a controlling interest in the company, whose main assets are a hotel, a general store, a contract to run the main port, a Land Rover dealership and some land.

Profits of £1 million a year are unlikely to grow and could quickly diminish, in spite of the chance of a big oil find. In that event, FIH could provide ancillary services for the oil industry. However, it is important to keep this in perspective; most of the contracting will be done by international oil service companies, using shipyards in Argentina.

If FIH is lucky, its property holdings could become valuable. However, the risk of the Falklands returning to their sleepy past is too real for this company to be a good bet.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years) / MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years) / LONGS (over 15 years) / UNDATED / INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 5% 3%

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LIFFE OPTIONS

Calls / Puts — Series, Jan, Apr, Jul

Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FTSE INDEX (*£10)

Strike	Calls Nov	Dec	Mar	Puts Nov	Dec	Mar
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

*Underlying security price

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest 197570	Dec 97	118-11	118-13	118-08	118-11	33406
	Mar 98	118-28	118-28	118-21	118-26	10492
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 271320	Dec 97	102.54	102.54	102.35	102.44	102346
	Mar 98	101.68	101.76	101.68	101.74	396
German Govt Bond (Bobl) Previous open interest 20423	Dec 97	103.48	103.50	103.38	103.42	10324
	Mar 98	102.72	102.72	102.72	102.72	20
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest 112720	Dec 97	111.75	111.83	111.66	111.71	26730
	Mar 98	111.84	111.89	111.83	111.85	197
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Dec 97	130.75	130.80	130.70	130.70	1449
	Mar 98	129.91	129.91	129.86	129.8363	
Three Mth Sterling Previous open interest 661143	Dec 97	92.59	92.60	92.58	92.59	20837
	Mar 98	92.54	92.55	92.52	92.53	13109
	Jun 98	92.55	92.57	92.54	92.56	10596
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1814848	Dec 97	96.24	96.24	96.21	96.22	35389
	Mar 98	95.99	95.99	95.94	95.94	33388
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest 498829	Dec 97	93.69	93.71	93.68	93.68	10428
	Mar 98	94.42	94.45	94.42	94.42	7426
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest 190904	Dec 97	97.97	97.97	97.92	97.94	5355
	Mar 98	97.79	97.79	97.75	97.76	6240
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest 37437	Dec 97	95.38	95.38	95.37	95.37	350
	Mar 98	95.30	95.30	95.27	95.27	178
FTSE 100 Previous open interest 74887	Dec 97	4945.0	4987.0	4887.0	4925.0	11188
	Mar 98	5012.0	5012.0	5012.0	4967.0	155

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7½ Low 4 Week fixed: 7½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7 : 3 mth 7. Sell: 2 mth 6½ : 3 mth: 6½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	7⅛-6⅞	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Sterling Money Rates:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Overnight: open 7½, close 4.					
Local Authority Deps:	7⅛	n/a	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.50	n/a	5.69	5.94	5.87
Building Society CDs:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-4⅞
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	4-3
French Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Swiss Franc:	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	2⅛-1⅛	2⅛-1⅛
Yen:	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	½-par

Bullion: Open $313.20-313.50 Close: $314.00-314.50 High: $314.90-315.40
Low: $313.20-313.70 AM: $314.60 PM: $313.50

Krugerrand: $314.00-316.00 (£186.00-188.00)

Platinum: $406.50 (£242.40) Silver: $4.90 (£2.915) Palladium: $210.50 (£125.50)

Mid Rates for Nov 5	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2523-3.2749	3.2527-3.2561	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-2⅞pr
Brussels	59.490-60.000	59.502-59.611	20-15pr	56-49pr
Copenhagen	10.976-11.065	10.981-10.990	¼-par	1⅛-par
Dublin	1.1099-1.1197	1.1105-1.1141	12-6pr	35-28pr
Frankfurt	2.8945-2.9078	2.8859-2.8884	¼-par	2⅛-2⅛pr
Lisbon	294.46-296.77	294.46-294.79	¼-par	1⅛-1⅛pr
Madrid	243.64-245.54	243.64-243.86	50-39pr	147-128pr
Milan	2825.1-2848.0	2825.1-2828.7	20-4pr	61-38pr
Montreal	2.3428-2.3546	2.3442-2.3463	0.70-0.65pr	1.37-1.28pr
New York	1.6732-1.6818	1.6750-1.6759	0.243-0.222pr	0.693-0.662pr
Oslo	11.769-11.887	11.769-11.784	¼-par	1⅛-par
Paris	9.6620-9.7410	9.6626-9.6770	3⅛-3pr	9⅛-8⅞pr
Stockholm	12.562-12.676	12.591-12.607	¼-3pr	1⅛-par
Tokyo	205.25-206.18	205.25-205.46	1⅛-1⅛pr	3⅛-3⅛pr
Vienna	20.310-20.469	20.310-20.331	¼-par	1⅛-1⅛pr
Zurich	2.3555-2.3734	2.3556-2.3583	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3⅛pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr. Discount = dr.

	Nov 5 midday	Nov 4 close
Australia	1.4214-1.4224	
Austria	12.12-12.13	
Belgium (Com)	35.55-35.59	
Canada	1.4009-1.4014	
Denmark	6.5621-6.5641	
France	5.7770-5.7793	
Germany	1.7250-1.7255	
Hong Kong	7.7300-7.7320	
Ireland	1.5020-1.5070	
Italy	1689.5-1690.0	
Japan	122.71-122.81	
Malaysia	3.2850-3.2950	
Netherlands	1.9445-1.9455	
Norway	7.0367-7.0417	
Portugal	176.04-176.14	
Singapore	1.5675-1.5695	
Spain	145.67-145.72	
Sweden	7.5141-7.5215	
Switzerland	1.4077-1.4087	

	Nov 5 midday	Nov 4 close
Argentina peso*	1.6731-1.6758	
Australia dollar	2.3773-2.3797	
Bahrain dinar	0.6265-0.6405	
Brazil real*	1.8412-1.8457	
China yuan	13.767-14.067	
Cyprus pound	0.8425-0.8615	
Finland markka	8.6425-8.7835	
Greece drachma	450.75-461.25	
Hong Kong dollar	12.9362-12.9418	
India rupee	60.54-61.84	
Indonesia rupiah	n/a	
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5035-0.5145	
Malaysia ringgit	5.4961-5.5162	
New Zealand dollar	2.6770-2.6816	
Pakistan rupee	72.40 Buy	
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0200-6.1850	
Singapore dollar	2.6217-2.6267	
S Africa rand (com)	8.0190-8.1880	
U A E dirham	6.1025-6.2385	

*Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank*

3i	482	Legal & Gn	2,400
ASDA Gp	12,400	Lloyds TSB	11,700
Abbey Nt	2,800	LucasVarity	3,200
Alliance & Leic	1,100	Marks Spr	7,900
Allied Dom	3,200	NatWst Bk	3,200
AB Foods	2,000	Nat Grid	4,200
BAA	2,800	Nat Power	2,700
BAT Inds	5,800	Ntwst	1,400
BG	6,200	Norwich Un	5,800
BOC	553	Orange	6,700
BP	11,000	P & O	1,600
BSkyB	1,800	Pearson	2,000
BTR	12,300	PowerGen	1,900
BT	11,400	Prudential	2,900
Bk of Scot	2,600	RMC	919
Barclays	3,700	Railtrack	907
Bass	2,200	Rank Group	1,500
Billiton	12,100	Reckitt Col	624
Blue Circle	653	Reed Intl	3,600
Boots	2,500	Rentokil	2,100
BAe	1,200	Reuters	1,700
BA	7,800	Rio Tinto	2,600
British Land	2,900	Rolls Royce	7,900
Brit Steel	5,300	Royal & Sun	4,400
Cable Wire	5,600	Royal Bk Sct	707
Cadbury	1,400	Safeway	1,400
Carlton Cms	2,500	Sainsbury	6,800
Centrica	10,800	Schroders	79
Cen Union	1,600	Scot & New	1,100
Diageo	1,900	Scot Power	2,300
EMI	1,600	Svn Trent	735
Energy Gp	3,500	Shell Trans	13,500
Enterpr Oil	1,100	Siebe	1,500
GKN	911	SmKl Bch	10,100
GRE	2,800	Smiths Inds	1,300
GUS	3,100	Std Chartd	4,200
Gen Acc	1,300	Sun Life	1,400
Gen Elec	15,200	TI Gp	1,400
Glaxo Well	5,600	Tesco	5,300
Grnada	1,400	Thames W	510
Grand Met	15,400	Tomkins	3,000
Guinness	2,600	Unilever	4,100
HSBC	3,900	Utd Utilities	1,400
Halifax	4,000	Utd News	764
Hays	987	Vodafone	11,500
ICI	2,900	Whitbread	1,400
Kingfisher	2,100	Williams	1,200
LASMO	3,200	Wolseley	878
Ladbroke	5,900	Wootwich	3,000
Land Secs	758	Zeneca	2,700

	Nov 5 midday	Nov 4 close
AMF Inc	47¾	47¾
AMR Corp	123	119⅞
AT & T	48⅞	49⅞
Abbott Labs	63⅞	63
Advanced Micro	23⅞	23⅞
Aetna Life	72⅞	74⅞
Airtouch Comm	64⅞	61⅞
Air Prod & Chem	78⅞	78⅞
Alltrack Comm	40⅞	39⅞
Albertson's	38⅞	37⅞
Alcan Aluminm	28⅞	28⅞
Allied Signal	39⅞	38⅞
Alum Co of Am	74	72⅞
Amerada Hess	62⅞	63⅞
Amer El Power	47⅞	47⅞
Amer Express	80⅞	79⅞
Amer Genl Corp	51⅞	51⅞
Amer Home Pr	76⅞	76⅞
Amer Intl	103⅞	103⅞
Amer Stores	25⅞	25⅞
Amer Standard	36⅞	36⅞
Ameritech	65⅞	65⅞
Amgen	52⅞	53⅞
AMOCO	91⅞	92⅞
Andrew Corp	23⅞	23⅞
Anheuser-Busch	40⅞	41⅞
Apple Computer	18⅞	17⅞
Archer Daniels	22⅞	22⅞
Armco	5⅞	6
Armstrng Wrld	67⅞	68⅞
Asarco	27⅞	27⅞
Atl Richfield	82⅞	83
Atlnt Corp	23⅞	23⅞
Auto Data Pro	52⅞	52⅞
Avery Dennison	40⅞	40⅞
Avon Products	65⅞	64⅞
Baker Hughes	48⅞	48⅞
Ballon Ous & El	27⅞	27⅞
Banc One	51⅞	52⅞
BankAmerica	73	73⅞
Bank of NY	48⅞	48
Bankers Tr NY	120⅞	121⅞
Barnett Banks	71⅞	72⅞
Bausch & Lomb	39⅞	39⅞
Baxter Intl	48⅞	47⅞
Bectn Dickinsn	45⅞	47
Bell Atlantic	80⅞	81⅞
BellSouth	48⅞	47⅞
Black & Decker	37⅞	38⅞
Block (Hnry)	37⅞	38⅞
Boeing	46⅞	47
Boise Cascade	36⅞	36⅞
Boston Scientf	49⅞	48⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	91⅞	92
Brunswick Corp	34⅞	34
Brunswick	33⅞	33⅞
Burlington Nthn	96⅞	96
CMS Energy Corp	37⅞	37⅞
CPC Intl	104⅞	101⅞
CSX	54⅞	54⅞
Campbell Soup	55⅞	55⅞
Carolina Pwr	39⅞	39⅞
Case Corp	68⅞	65⅞
Caterpillar	53	52⅞
Central & SW	21	21⅞
Champion Intl	58⅞	56⅞
Chase Manhat	118⅞	118⅞
Chevron Corp	84⅞	86⅞
Chrysler	35⅞	35⅞
Chubb Corp	67⅞	68
Cigna Corp	125⅞	125⅞
Citicorp	131⅞	131
Clorox	70	70⅞
Coastal Corp	60⅞	60⅞
Coca Cola	57⅞	58⅞
Coca Cola Ent	28⅞	29⅞
Colgate-Palm	65⅞	63⅞
Columbia Gas	72⅞	72⅞
ColumbiaHCA	29⅞	28⅞
Compaq Comp	66⅞	66⅞
Comp Ass Int	78⅞	79⅞
Conagra	33⅞	33⅞
Cons Edison	34⅞	34⅞
Cons Nat Gas	56⅞	55⅞
Cooper Indt	53⅞	53⅞
Coronado	72⅞	72⅞
Corning Inc	45⅞	45⅞
Cyprus Cmtl	23⅞	23⅞
Dana Corp	46⅞	49⅞
Dayton Hudson	65⅞	65⅞
Deere	54⅞	54
Delta Air Lines	104⅞	105⅞
Deluxe Corp	32⅞	32⅞
Digital Equip	53⅞	55⅞
Dillard Dept St	40⅞	40⅞
Disney (Wlt)	93⅞	93⅞
Dominion Res	37⅞	37
Donelley (RR)	33⅞	33⅞
Dover Corp	69⅞	69⅞
Dow Chemical	92⅞	93⅞
Dow Jones	47⅞	47⅞
Dresser	43⅞	44
Duke Power	47⅞	48⅞
Dun & Bradstrt	29	29⅞
Du Pont	58⅞	58
Eastman Chem	59⅞	60⅞
Eastman Kodak	68⅞	63⅞
Eaton Corp	97⅞	97⅞

	Nov 5 midday	Nov 4 close
Edison Inc	35⅞	35⅞
Elect Data Sys	38⅞	38⅞
Emerson Elec	56⅞	55⅞
Engelhard Corp	18⅞	18
Enron Corp	38⅞	38⅞
Entergy	26⅞	26⅞
Ethyl Corp	8⅞	8⅞
Exxon	61⅞	62⅞
FMC Corp	83⅞	82⅞
FPL Group	52⅞	52⅞
Federal Express	67⅞	67⅞
Fifth Third Banc	69⅞	69⅞
Fleet Fnl Grp	64⅞	64⅞
Fluor Corp	37⅞	37⅞
Ford Motor	46⅞	46⅞
Fort James	38⅞	38⅞
Fortune Brands	33⅞	33⅞
Franklin Res	93⅞	93⅞
GTE Corp	43⅞	43⅞
Gannett	53	52⅞
Gap Inc Del	35	33⅞
Gateway 2000	30⅞	30⅞
Gen Dynamics	82⅞	82⅞
Gen Electric	69⅞	68⅞
Gen Mills	67⅞	67⅞
Gen Motors	66⅞	66⅞
Gen Reinsurance	196⅞	197
Gen Signal	43	41⅞
Genuine Parts	31⅞	32⅞
Georgia Pac	86⅞	87⅞
Gillette	92⅞	91⅞
Glaxo Wellc ADR	43⅞	44
Goodrich (BF)	45⅞	45⅞
Goodyear Tire	65⅞	65⅞
Great Lakes	47⅞	47⅞
Halliburton	63⅞	62⅞
Harcourt General	51⅞	51⅞
Helmz (PG)	47⅞	47⅞
Hercules	48⅞	45⅞
Hershey Foods	55⅞	56
Hewlett Packard	64⅞	64⅞
Hilton Hotels	30⅞	30⅞
Home Depot	57	57⅞
Homestake Mng	12⅞	12⅞
Honeywell	70⅞	70⅞
Household Intl	116⅞	114⅞
Houston Inds	34⅞	34⅞
Humana	22⅞	22⅞
ITT Corp	79⅞	78
Ikon Office	30	29⅞
Illinois Tool	51⅞	51⅞
Illinova	27⅞	27⅞
INCO	19⅞	20⅞
Ingersoll Rand	40⅞	40⅞
Inland Steel	30⅞	30⅞
Intel Corp	79⅞	79⅞
IBM	102⅞	102
Intl Flav & Fr	48⅞	48
Intl Paper	46⅞	46⅞
Jones & Jonson	60⅞	60⅞
Kellogg	43⅞	44⅞
Kerr-McGee	68⅞	69⅞
Kimberly-Clark	52⅞	52⅞
Kmart	13⅞	13⅞
Knight-Ridder	52⅞	52⅞
LDV (GB

British aid should follow trade

Almost all sensible people agree that Britain's overseas aid programme should not be used to buttress British business but to alleviate poverty in economies that can only dream of bring classed as "emerging". One is tempted to ask why. The answer is usually "Pergau", an exclamation that in aid circles carries all the meaningful nod-and-wink political simplicity of "Ground Nuts" or "Suez" in decades past.

Helping to finance the Pergau Dam in Malaysia was perhaps not the best use of UK taxpayers' resources. The dam was expensive and of questionable economic and environmental merit — though Malaysians should be the judges of that. British firms were intended to benefit, but official British assistance also appeared suspiciously linked to a big arms deal.

The details scarcely rate the Pergau dam becoming a slogan, but it finally killed off the Aid and Trade Provision (ATP), a programme long hated by down-to-earth aid professionals and fast fading in any case. ATP symbolised schemes to pay British contractors to build grandiose projects that were too often left to rust in the jungle.

All donors from the World Bank down now reject the instant steel works approach. That should not be used as an excuse to make it an anathema to benefit UK jobs and British commercial advantage. Far from it. If aid is truly to help poor people in poor countries to develop economies that can look after themselves and make their lives better, then and should be tied to business more closely than ever.

In future, however, short term export contracts should give way to long-term partnerships, inward investment, import contracts and retailers' sourcing deals. Most of Britain's tied aid actually finances technical assistance, supplied by those professional consultants that it is now so fashionable to decry. They hope that tied aid will continue in the form of mixed credits of commercial and subsidised funds. Those who have campaigned against ATP are suspicious of mixed credits. They still acknowledge that the self-interested support of business is vital if the UK aid budget is to be raised.

In this field, more than most, Britain has to live with a modest role in the world. We are relatively selfless and realistic in handing most of our aid Budget to the European Union or international agencies that have the scale to operate globally on big, socially significant programmes.

That means most of our aid contribution is akin to a tax, surrendered to bodies over whom we have little influence, to be transferred to people we cannot identify. Our influence on these organisations is limited, if only because our aid budget is less than half the internationally agreed 0.7

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

per cent of national income. Three smaller members of the EU manage that. France and Germany at least contribute much more cash than the UK. And they are now the chief enthusiasts for tied aid in their bilateral Budgets. The chances of Britain's new Department for International Development persuading France and Germany to abandon this policy therefore appear slim. First put up another £3 billion a year, they might say, and you can tell us how to use EU aid, if not our own.

Britain's influence to help poor countries more effectively lies in its own bilateral aid budget. It should be sued to link aid with UK business in a more practical and contructive way. The cynical old days of trade following aid may be over. A more helpful idea would be for aid to follow trade.

Clare Short's new policy contains a novel but sketchy plan to encourage UK companies to help poor countries by being more responsible in trade with them. Supermarkets and clothing retailers, for instance, should take care that contracts to buy summer food in winter, or to use low-cost labour to make designer fashions, help people in supplying countries, lift living standards and do not destroy the local flora and fauna.

On the surface, this initiative seems quote separate from the aid programme. Yet it could be at its heart. Trade is most likely to lift living standards in poor countries. Aid linked to import and sourcing contracts can help to make sure that it does, by linking the provision of social services directly to production and by supporting schemes to ensure that development does not kill communities.

Development grants can also be linked to companies' investment in poor countries, which is now a far bigger force than official aid. This can reinforce the financial benefits and help to ensure that they are spread better. And by linking aid to British firms, the use of the aid can be monitored better on the ground and the behaviour of the firms kept up to scratch.

For relatively little money, the Department can also promote "fair trade" schemes for small communities in poor countries, including Commonwealth banana growers. This could include an approval scheme and help with branding so that shoppers can be confident that they are paying a few pence more for a good reason.

The UK's limited aid budget should also be specialised. The government shows signs of cutting back the number of recipients. It might better specialise in certain forms of aid such as education, dustance learning, health and water supplies. If this is planned with British firms, they can develop supply programmes and form partnerships on the ground.

If British trade has a weakness, it is that we are slower than pur rivals and partners to exploit new third world markets. The DTI seems to have given up on this. The best policy for international development is to encourage British companies to trade much more with poor countries and to back their involvement with aid that pulls its weight and makes the aid Budget at least a little less unpopular with voters.

Slogan signals change on the menu at McDonald's

Intense rivalry is prompting the search for a new recipe, according to **Ian Brodie**

The launch of Arch Deluze, top, fed rumours about the future of Michael Quinlan, left, chairman. The "McLibel" case against Helen Steel and David Morris left a bad taste. Analysts want new winners like the Egg McMuffin, created by Herb Peterson

Did somebody say McDonald's? This innocuous question is the new slogan adopted by the world's largest fast-food chain in its latest bid to boost sales in America. It is intended to be a catch-phrase that will draw customers old and new to McDonald's outlets.

The slogan appears in commercials that use humour to get their message across. One 30-second advertisement takes place in an office building where a worker announces he is going to McDonald's for lunch. The remark starts a scramble among his colleagues to give him their carry-out orders. When he finally leaves the building, the camera pulls back to show hundreds of employees with their noses pressed against the windows, anxiously watching his progress.

The adverts are a shift from recent McDonald's marketing that dwelt largely on cut-price specials. They are part of an effort to reinvigorate McDonald's Corp. After years of sure-footed expansion, recent stumbles have left Wall Street wondering why so dominant a brand seems to have lost its way.

McDonald's worries have been intensified by increasingly aggressive competition. Burger King Corp, a wholly owned subsidiary of Britain's Grand Metropolitan, launched Big King, a Big Mac knock-off that has proved wildly popular. It has more meat than the Big Mac and, in the view of many, is also tastier for being barbecued rather than fried.

McDonald's has hit back in some areas with an item so similar to Burger King's single burger Whopper that it amounts to a cloneburger. Burger King's market share in the US has climbed one point to 19.2 per cent but is still way behind McDonald's 41.9 per cent.

McDonald's problems have antagonised a growing number of franchisees, traditionally the most loyal supporters of the McDonald's ethos of standardised meals served quickly in clean surroundings. These stalwarts can be heard complaining about the lack of appetising new menu items emanating from the high-tech kitchens at McDonald's headquarters in suburban Chicago. They blame falling profits on cut-price promotions and on "cannibalisation", the opening of new McDonald's restaurants within the customer pool of existing ones.

There are persistent charges, strongly denied by McDonald's, that the corporation retaliates against franchisees who voice objections — even forcing them out of business. "The company is arrogant," said Dick Adams, a former McDonald's executive who leads a band of disgruntled franchisees called Consortium Members Inc. Mr Adams said the decision to bring the "McLibel" case against two environmentalists in London was typical of the company's heavy-handedness.

The consortium has taken up the case of a 65-year-old franchisee in Florida who, after 26 years in one location, was offered a new site in the same street. After studying the higher fees he would have to pay McDonald's, the man was convinced he would not make a profit and declined the offer.

Within weeks McDonald's gave him failing evaluations for food handling and sanitation and won a court injunction to take his store off him. A McDonald's spokesman said there had been concerns about cleanliness, but could not explain why they had not surfaced before.

Group profit of $1.58 billion (£940 million) last year compared with $1.43 billion a year earlier, on worldwide sales of about $32 billion. Last month it said earnings rose 6 per cent in the first nine months but just 2 per cent in the third quarter to $449 million, or 64 cents a share. Analysts expected 67 cents. The company depends heavily on overseas operations and blamed the strong dollar for hurting its results. McDonald's has an astonishing total of 22,246 restaurants, of which nearly 10,000 are outside the US, including 702 in Britain. Foreign operations were responsible for 59 per cent of group pre-tax profits last year.

Damon Brundage, restaurant analyst for NatWest Securities in New York, remains convinced that McDonald's must change a tired product line for better-tasting beef and chicken burgers. McDonald's is so large and bureaucratic that it cannot adapt quickly to the marketplace, according to John Lord, chairman of the national food marketing department at St Joseph's University, Philadelphia. Burger King, with 9,300 outlets worldwide, 439 of them in Britain, implements change rapidly.

McDonald's is badly in need of a new winner. Last year, after two years of research, it spent $200 million to launch a range of beef, chicken and fish concoctions called Arch Deluxe. Maybe it was the high fat content or the price, but the new line was quickly nicknamed McFlop.

McDonald's had another bungle this year called Campaign 55, which offered a burger for 55 cents. Customers had to buy French fries and a soft drink at regular prices to qualify. There were so many cries of foul that the promotion was ignominiously withdrawn.

The string of mistakes has led to speculation over how long the McDonald's board will remain patient with their chairman, Michael Quinlan, a self-described "hands-on guy". He has been with the firm 34 years, starting in the mail room.

But nor should the company's comeback potential be underestimated. It would do well to heed its franchisees. They, after all, came up with Egg McMuffin, Hot Apple Pie, Filet o'Fish and the Big Mac, all winners. Headquarters, by contrast, cooked up McPizza, McLean and Arch Deluxe, all losers.

Why the coal industry must not be scuttled

Jobs and export opportunities would be lost by closing mines, says **Patrick Carragher**

Dr Dieter Helm argued in these pages last week that propping up coal would be bad for the environment, and that the coal industry should be allowed to go to the wall, even if this meant new nuclear capacity. The justification for all this lay in the Government's commitment to a 20 per cent reduction in CO_2 emissions by 2010.

However, Dr Helm made several statements that were seriously flawed or inaccurate, and side-stepped other issues in what seemed to be an apology for the current Government's almost Pontius Pilate attitude to coal.

We agree that on current trends the 20 per cent target is not remotely achievable. But this needs to be placed in the global context that the UK currently accounts for less than 2 per cent of world CO_2 emissions, with coal being less than half that figure.

This year UK coal demand will be of the order of 50 million tonnes. A one-off reduction that would be achieved with no UK coal is similar to the likely increase to China's burn each year for the next 15 years.

These figures highlight the difficulties in reducing emissions. One clear way to do so is to ensure that all countries, but especially emerging nations, have available to them technologies that will reduce the whole range of emissions from burning solid fuels. UK plc is well placed in this technological race.

The reality is that coal will remain a major player globally — in 1995 it overtook grain in volume terms as the world's number one traded commodity and it is continuing to grow. To foreclose the clean coal option is environmentally naive and would lose the UK manufacturing sector export opportunities and jobs.

Dr Helm refers to coal lobbyists and specifically Richard Budge, of RJB, arguing coal's case in the name of security of supply, fuel diversity and sustainability. Not strictly true. These comments were trumpeted by John Battle, Energy Minister, after the election.

The reasons for security of supply considerations are well understood and require fuel diversity. The dangers of over-dependence on imported oil were highlighted during the 1970s and the last Government was clearly concerned about dependency upon coal in electricity generation, particularly in light of the 1984-85 miners' strike.

Current trends suggest that without a policy change the UK could be up to 80 per cent dependent upon gas in less than 15 years, at a time when its gas reserves will reduce to zero.

The inheritance Dr Helm is inviting us to create for our children is wholesale dependence on gas from unstable geopolitical regions, such as Algeria and the former Soviet Union. The Labour manifesto also committed the Government not to commission any new nuclear stations. If this is taken at face value it means that current nuclear capacity will decommission (starting first with the magnox stations). In the absence of a coal industry, gas would be required to fill the vacuum. And here's the rub: gas also emits CO_2, albeit not at the same level as coal. But the extra gas build required would blow a hole in the 20 per cent CO_2 target.

The real issue for the coal industry in the longer term is the need for the Government to review the regulation of the electricity industry to provide a proper comparison between generating costs as well as prices. The opportunity to do this exists with the current DTI review.

Dr Helm states that closing coal mines is not irreversible. In my 20 years experience in coal mining I do not believe I could find a reputable mining engineer to agree with him.

None of the producers is asking for subsidies. The remaining jobs in mining are much better paid than the replacement ones that have emerged through economic regeneration. This has important and positive consequences for local economies and means that the "multiplier" effect for these areas will be disastrous if these coal and related jobs go. The total effect being perhaps an employment loss of 50,000. Time is running out for the Government to address the reality of these issues.

Patrick Carragher is the General Secretary of the British Association of Colliery Management.

BUSINESS LETTER

Percentage method is no way to measure water loss

From the Managing Director, Thames Water Utilities

Sir, Few impartial observers would agree that expressing leakage as a percentage of water into supply adds to public understanding of the issue ("Water pressure leaks away", Commentary, October 29).

Calculating leakage in this way actually distorts the real situation: if demand halves, leakage, expressed as a percentage, appears to rise, even though the physical amount lost has remained unchanged. Conversely, if demand doubles, leakage appers to halve. This is the real reason why our regulator does not recognise it as a meaningful indicator.

None of this should disguise our absolute determination to reduce leakage. Despite the unique difficulties we face in London, we have since March reduced the total amount lost by over 100 million litres a day, enough to supply a town the size of Reading.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON MAXWELL,
Thames Water Utilities,
Nugent House,
Vastern Road,
Reading, Berkshire.

Head ache

DEUTSCHE Morgan Grenfell is being pursued by a gang of headhunters over the arrival this summer of a new head of Latin American equities in London. Napier Scott, a new one to me but headhunters, like bats, tend to reproduce unexpectedly in dark corners, says it introduced Raul Biancardi to DMG in October. The bank and headhunters agreed informally that there was no vacancy but the appointment would be put on hold.

In June he popped up on the Latin American desk. The contract with Napier Scott said that if he was hired more than six months afterwards no fee was payable. The headhunters are claiming, in a writ that manages to misspell two key names including that of their client, but we'll let that go, that he was employed at the bank before June. Or alternatively that, because the job was put on hold, the six-month cut-off does not apply. DMG is defending the claim, and the case could be instructive.

"They should've moved them closer to the UK years ago"

● *AN ARRESTING headline on the Stock Exchange's ICV Company News service, flagging Inchcape's acquisition of a majority stake in a company that supplies almost all the Coca-Cola sold in Peru: "Inchcape Spends £41m on Peruvian Coke."*

Credit due?

A SURVEY in *Accountancy Age* suggests that four out of five finance directors would continue to employ an accountant who blew the whistle on corruption — a statement that registers at least eight points on the Mandy Rice-Davies scale. But consider the converse. The survey found that one in ten finance directors would sack anyone who pointed out that the books were being cooked. And those are only the ones that admitted it. Reassuring, isn't it?

On face of it

"THE HUMAN face of Carol Galley" sounds like one of those joke books that compete in having the fewest pages — "Swiss Naval Victories", "Cost Benefit Analysis the EU Way", you know the kind. But it exists and will shortly be coming through your letter box. Six City institutions have banded together, each selling one of their investment trusts. The specialist agency handling the job, DMB&B Financial, has cleverly personified each trust and each investment house.

Schroders is a buccaneer, a young man keen on foreign travel, who is invited to invest in an Asia-Pacific fund. Kleinwort Benson a lady with a passion for Europe. Mercury Asset Management, by contrast, Galley's employer, is the opposite, someone who will seek out all things and only things British. Except that, now I come to think of it, she married a German.

● *TALKING of EU munificence, a colleague has received an invitation to a conference on crafts and small businesses in Milan this month. Brussels offers to pay for a four-night stay and the air fare. Oddly enough, the conference is for just two days. Doubtless it will be as successful as its two predecessors which, the Commission claims, "led to a better recognition of the particularities of the sector and to a list of proposals aimed at improving the legal and administrative environment in which craft and small businesses operate." Of course they did.*

Hard dough

HARD to believe, but I am beginning to feel sorry for Laura Ashley. Not only do senior staff keep walking out because they cannot work with Ann Iverson, I hear the place is infested with twin plagues — Goldman Sachs staff and American management consultants. The Goldman boys, for whose benefit the floors have had to be especially strengthened to take the weight of their wallets, are there courtesy of John Thornton, the non-executive chairman, who works for the investment bank. The other pests come from the Parthenon Group, a small management consultant which seems to have got the job because it has an office in Boston, Mass., US home base of Laura Ashley. There are worse reasons for hiring management consultants, I suppose. There are certainly few good ones.

Now the company has suffered yet another indignity. There is a new brands project director. An American, his name is Kevin Rogers. He is there to "identify the brand", whatever that means. And he joins from Dunkin Donuts.

MARTIN WALLER

Ann Iverson has seen senior staff walk out

ACCOUNTANCY

Goalposts keep on moving

Howard Ross on the dangers of retrospective tax legislation

INLAND REVENUE officials and Treasury ministers will have breathed a sigh of relief at the recent judgment of the European Court of Human Rights. Three building societies lost their case against the Government over its right to legislate retrospectively to annul proceedings in UK courts.

It had been expected that the decision would shed light on the legitimacy of the increasingly common practice of making tax legislation retrospective. This would have been of special interest to companies subjected to the windfall tax. Unfortunately, for those interested in this area, the court did not take the opportunity to lay down clear guidelines in this complex area.

The Conservative administration introduced retrospective tax legislation on 27 occasions, often to reverse its defeats in the courts. The Labour Government has continued this trend with the windfall tax. Previous retrospections were all in some degree an admission of failure: the windfall tax punishes the "failings" of others, although imposed on persons very different (the company and its shareholders today) to those who benefited from the perceived excess profits (the shareholders at the time of privatisation).

Dislike of retrospective legislation is understandable. Retrospection lies awkwardly at the fracture line between two of the main principles of the British constitution: the supremacy of Parliament — that the Government in Parliament can make whatever laws it likes; and the rule of law — that everyone, including the Government, is bound by the law and has an equal right to take disputes to a fair hearing by independent courts.

By taking advantage of its supremacy to make any law it thinks fit the Government erodes the rule of law, because retrospective legislation promulgates rival versions of what the law was at any one time. Unconstrained, this would render law meaningless. Retrospection is also destructive of the culture of self-reliance. How can taxpayers be expected to be responsible for their solvency if the fiscal laws within which they operate are liable to be changed retrospectively?

These are powerful considerations, but they are not absolute ones. It is not just retrospective legislation that destroys legitimate interests and overturns reasonable expectations. All legislative change does this in some degree. The propensity of retrospective legislation to overturn reasonable expectations is, however, far greater than in the case of other legislation. Because of this, there needs to be a much more significant perceived benefit to justify it.

There are examples of tax retrospection which everyone agrees to have been a sensible political choice: thus, the General Rate (Public Utilities) Act 1977, which reinstated legislation providing for the rating valuation of various utilities. The legislation had been acted upon for years before it came to light that it had been accidentally repealed a decade earlier.

Such examples are rare. Most retrospective legislation destroys legitimate existing rights, and usually does so unfairly. Government must therefore justify an otherwise ruthless action by appealing to some greater good. In the tax field the purpose of retrospection is invariably to raise more money, so the beneficiary is the Government or "the general body of taxpayers".

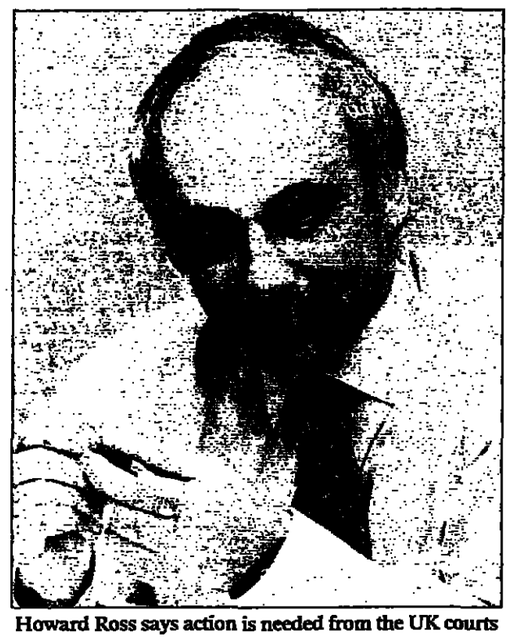
Governments often find it helpful to prepare public opinion for a retrospective tax by denigrating the intended victims. Thus the use of terminology such as "windfall".

Under UK domestic law there is no redress for a taxpayer subject to retrospective legislation. However, the UK's obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms are different because, although taxation of corporations hardly lies at the forefront of its concerns, its jurisdiction is explicitly ethical. That extends to companies because individuals are affected by the maltreatment of institutions. The convention protects the possessions of individuals and corporations from expropriation.

The court has already held that retrospective legislation to counter a particular offensive 1970s tax avoidance scheme did not contravene the convention. In the building societies decision the court noted that it was "especially mindful of the dangers inherent in the use of retrospective legislation which has the effect of influencing the judicial determination of a dispute". However, the judges went on to hold that even the rule against interference in the judicial process "cannot be interpreted to prevent *any interference* by the authorities" with pending legal proceedings to which they are a party. To fall foul of the convention, a tax would need to have some special element of unfairness.

The present Government is a champion of the convention and has announced its incorporation into UK law. It is to be hoped that the UK courts will seize the opportunity soon to be afforded to them, to look critically at the whole issue of retrospective tax legislation.

Howard Ross is a Partner in the tax practice of Clifford Chance.



Howard Ross says action is needed from the UK courts

Is your merger really necessary?

THE great merger race opens in earnest this weekend. The proposals for the merger of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse will be sent out to partners for their consideration. The proposals for the KPMG and Ernst & Young merger will wing their way later in the month. Voting will take place sooner rather than later. If the mergers go through, we are looking at a global hierachy of only four big firms to service the world's largest companies.

The consequences of this are enormous. Partners are going to have a difficult time assessing the issues before the vote. The problem is that the documents going out to the partners can tell only one side of the story. The proposals have one ultimate purpose — to get partners to vote for them. As a result, they cannot be totally truthful documents. "They have to be the 'go-for-it' papers," one former senior partner told me the other week. They can spell out some implications, but not all. Turkeys will not vote for Christmas. This is obvious from the flurry of activity after a senior Coopers partner let it be known last week that one consequence of the merger would be a 10 per cent cull of partners worldwide. If that were set out in the proposals, 850 of the 8,500 partners would be "No" votes automatically. The idea was immediately rubbished in internal memos rushed to the two firms' partners.

There is also the matter of clients. Client concerns will be included in the proposals, but cannot be fully addressed. This is not because anyone is trying to avoid them. It is simply that accountancy firms, for all their protestations that "clients come first", have not really addressed the issue yet. This becomes obvious the more you talk to partners and clients. If you put client concerns to senior partners, you receive the same answer. It comes in different forms, but amounts to "They don't understand". What clients tend to say, particularly when told that the prime motivation for the mergers is to put together huge investment in setting up networks in China, Russia and other emerging markets, is that they don't care how much it costs to have offices in 30 Chinese cities, what they want is decent service here.

The firms' somewhat weary response is that clients are looking at the firms as they are today without understanding what they will be in the future. This is where the dream of huge professional service firms comes in. The people behind the mergers dream of a few colossi dominating a highly sophisticated market that will encompass every known professional service with the exception, they hope in the far future, of audit. Whereas what clients want is a good firm, with global reach, that can provide the services they need effectively and cheaply wherever they happen to trade.

These two very different views, one a vision, the other a reality, are going to be very hard for the firms to bring together. Clients tend to say that the firms, as currently constituted, seem global enough. If they go into further detail, they will point out that the only reason the firms are not structured as single firms globally has been nothing to do with client service motivation. It is simply because that way they can avoid any question of liability straying across borders. One single global partnership could see partners in England paying up for negligence in New England. At present, this cannot happen.

Clients also tend to take a scathing view of the idea that the firms need to double their size to afford the investment required for their vision of the future. They point out that if clients want to invest heavily for new markets, accountants generally advise going to the stock market to raise funds. The accountancy firms' problems in raising enough money is a problem of structure rather than markets. If they were to change from being partnerships into corporations, there would be less problem in raising money. These are the real business issues that need to be addressed.

However, there are also problems of simple perception. These range from the light-hearted to the serious. At a seminar at the World Congress of Accountants in Paris last week, Peter Dey, of Morgan Stanley, who is chairman of the Toronto Stock Exchange committee on corporate governance, found himself introducing a speaker from KPMG. Fishing for words to describe what KPMG did, he said with a smile: "It's a big, it's a big, oh, I don't know." That is the light-hearted side. After a dinner this week, I found myself talking to the chairman of one of the largest and most influential clients involved in the UK mergers. He was not just vehement. He was thunderous in his view that they were utterly unnecessary.

The final reason behind the mergers is sheer ego. Partners next week should look at the proposals and wonder why the current Big Six firms did not stick to the gentle cartel that they already operated. The firms should have been ingenious enough to find a way of reshaping their world without antagonising regulators and clients. If they are not ingenious enough to do that, they are not ingenious enough to deserve to survive.

ROBERT BRUCE

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chinese puzzle

LOSS of face is a big issue for the Chinese. So we can only hope that the Chinese Vice-Minister of Finance is slightly deaf. Otherwise the audience's reception of his speech to the World Accounting Congress in Paris last week must have baffled him. During his presentation on the role of accountants in the transition of the Chinese economy, gales of laughter swept the auditorium as the man doing the translation into English became repeatedly lost. Instead of hearing how many joint ventures had been set up, the audience heard long pauses followed by non-accounting phrases like "bloody hell, where is he now" and "oh God, at last". Both audience and translator greeted the end of the speech with something close to hysteria.

Scots wha hae

IN COMMON with many Scottish exiles in the City, both Robert Smith and Norman Murray — chief executives of asset management and private equity respectively at Morgan Grenfell — return to their families at their baronial piles north of the border at weekends. But during the week they share a flat in Earls Court, West London. The problem is that it is not far from a notorious gay pub where customers are attired in strictly non-accounting leather and metalware. So there was acute embarrassment when both Murray and Smith were heading home this week after the annual Scots ICA dinner. Having realised that they were short of a crucial breakfast bottle of milk, the pair pitched up at the local all-night grocery in full kilted regalia. "It was," said Smith, "a good thing that I am no longer president. I don't know what would have happened if I had been wearing my chain of office as well."

Careless talk

LAST week's news that a Coopers partner had ventured the view that the proposed worldwide merger with Price Waterhouse would mean a cull of 10 per cent of the partners prompted some speedy damage limitation work at both firms. At PW, Ian Brindle, the senior partner, sent an immediate note to all partners emphasising that there would be no redundancies whatsoever "except for the Cooper's partner who talked to the press".

ROBERT BRUCE

Human Rights Law Report — Strasbourg

No breach in retrospective stifling of societies' tax claim

National and Provincial Building Society, Leeds Permanent Building Society and Yorkshire Building Society v United Kingdom

(Case No 117/1996/736/933-935)

Before R. Ryssdal, President, and Judges R. Macdonald, N. Valticos, E. Palm, R. Pekkanen, Sir John Freeland, P. Jambrek, K. Jungwiert and E. Levits

Registrar H. Petzold

Deputy Registrar P. J. Mahoney

[Judgment October 23]

Retrospective measures adopted by Parliament which stifled building societies' claims over collection of tax did not breach the European Convention on Human Rights given the powers a state enjoyed in securing the payment of taxes.

The European Court of Human Rights held unanimously that there had been no violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1 to the Convention and, by eight votes to one, that there had been no violation of that provision taken in conjunction with article 14 of the Convention.

Furthermore, the Court held unanimously that there had been no violation of article 6.1 of the Convention and, by eight votes to one, that there had been no violation of that article in conjunction with article 14 of the Convention.

Article 1 of Protocol No 1 provides: "Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law.

"The preceding provisions shall not, however, in any way impair the right of a state to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest or to secure the payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties."

Article 6 of the Convention provides: "1 In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. . ."

Article 14 of the Convention provides: "The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground such as sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status."

In the United Kingdom, investors in building societies were in principle liable to pay income tax in respect of interest paid to them. For practical reasons and pursuant to voluntary arrangements between building societies and the Inland Revenue, the Revenue levied that tax at source in the form of a single composite payment, composite rate tax or CRT, calculated as a proportion of the total sum of interest paid. Investors received interest net of tax and their liability to pay tax on the interest they earned was discharged by their building society via the payment of CRT to the Revenue.

Up to and including the fiscal year 1985-1986, CRT was calculated by reference to the interest paid by the building society during its own twelve-month accounting period ending within that fiscal year. That system was terminated with effect from the beginning of the fiscal year 1986-1987, that is, April 6, 1986. As of that date a new system was introduced under which the tax was calculated on a quarterly basis on the actual interest paid during the fiscal year.

Since the building societies' accounting periods did not coincide with the fiscal year, that left a gap of several months not covered by either the old system or the new. The Treasury issued the Income Tax (Building Societies) Regulations (SI 1986 No 482) setting out transitional provisions which made it possible to levy tax over that period. Pursuant to the 1986 Regulations, the National and Provincial paid £15,873,945; the Leeds paid £56,073,690; the Yorkshire paid £8,902,620.

On June 18, 1986 the Woolwich Equitable Building Society, brought judicial review proceedings challenging the legality of the transitional provisions. Mr Justice Nolan declared the transitional provisions to be void (*The Times* September 3, 1987; [1987] STC 654).

The Court of Appeal (Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Justice Parker and Sir Roualeyn Cumming-Bruce) allowed the Treasury's appeal (*The Times* April 14, 1989; [1989] STC 463).

The House of Lords allowed Woolwich's appeal and declared the transitional provisions to be wholly void (*The Times* October 26, 1990; [1990] 1 WLR 1400).

By a judgment in separate proceedings (*Woolwich Equitable Building Society v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (*The Times* May 27, 1993; [1993] AC 70) the Court of Appeal held that the Woolwich was entitled to the repayment, with interest from the date of payment, of the sums which had been illegally levied from it. That judgment was upheld by the House of Lords (*The Times* July 22, 1992; [1993] AC 70).

On March 15 and 17, 1991 respectively, the Leeds and the National and Provincial each issued writs to commence proceedings for the restitution of the sums paid by them under the transitional provisions.

On July 25, 1991, a new section 53 of the Finance Act 1991 came into force. Its effect was to give retrospective validity to the transitional provisions, except in relation to building societies which had commenced proceedings to challenge their validity before July 18, 1986.

Only the Woolwich met that condition. The proceedings brought by the applicant societies were thus stifled.

In the meanwhile, on July 10, 1991, the Leeds had brought judicial review proceedings for a declaration that the Treasury Orders setting the composite rate tax for 1986-1987 and for the following years were unlawful on technical grounds. The National and Provincial followed suit on November 6, 1991, as did the Yorkshire on March 3, 1992. In May and June 1992 all three societies commenced further proceedings by issuing writs for restitution of the sums which would be due to them if the judicial review proceedings should be successful.

On July 16, 1992 a new section 64 of the Finance (No 2) Act 1992 came into force. It retrospectively validated the Treasury Orders which were the object of the judicial review proceedings brought by the applicant societies, thus stifling those and the follow-up restitution proceedings.

The applications to the European Commission of Human Rights were lodged by the societies on January 15, 1993 (National and Provincial), December 21, 1992 (Leeds) and January 11, 1993 (Yorkshire). The Commission later joined the three applications. The applications so joined were declared admissible on January 13, 1995.

Having attempted unsuccessfully to secure a friendly settlement, the Commission drew up a report on June 25, 1966 in which it established the facts and expressed the opinion that there had been no violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1 (13 votes to 3), that there had been no violation of that article taken together with article 14 of the Convention (14 votes to 2); that there had been a violation of article 6(1) of the Convention (9 votes to 7); and that it was not necessary to examine the applicants' complaints under article 6(1) together with article 14 of the Convention (14 votes to 2).

The Commission referred the case to the Court on September 16, 1996. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland subsequently referred the case to the Court on October 25, 1996.

THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS held:

I Alleged violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1

The Court took as its first point the need to clarify whether the applicants were correct in their primary submission that the effect of the 1986 Regulations was to subject the interest which they paid to their investors in the gap period to a double imposition and that Parliament had been misled in that respect.

The Court noted that the interest would inevitably have been taxed had the voluntary arrangements between building societies and the Revenue continued in force. The applicants had in fact already deducted the tax owing to the Revenue from the interest paid to their investors and that tax had been lodged in their reserves waiting to be brought into account at some stage in accordance with the operation of the said arrangements.

It was an inescapable conclusion that, in the absence of the transitional mechanism in the 1986 Regulations, each of the applicant societies would have been left with a considerable windfall in the move from the prior-period basis of assessment to the actual-year basis.

Furthermore, the Court considered that there was no support in the judicial pronouncements in the Woolwich litigation for the argument that the interest had been subjected to a double imposition, other than in a theoretical sense.

The interest was taxed once and once only as evidenced by the fact that there was no increase in the revenue collected from the applicants as between the old and new tax payment regimes. That the 1986 Regulations would have that effect on the interest paid in the gap period should have been appreciated by the applicant societies.

The measures were debated at length in Parliament before their adoption against the background of strong lobbying by building societies to have the gap period omitted for tax assessment purposes.

In the change-over to the new system, it could not be maintained in the circumstances that Parliament was misled as to the impact of the 1986 Regulations.

Parliament had intended that the interest would be charged to tax and the moneys which were paid to the Inland Revenue by virtue of those regulations were neither the result of a double imposition nor an unlawful expropriation of their assets.

The Court expressed no concluded view as to whether any of the legal claims asserted by the applicant societies could properly be considered "possessions" within the meaning of article 1 of Protocol No 1. It doubted whether any of their claims was sufficiently established or could be considered to be based on any legitimate expectation that the law would not be amended in the way it was on two occasions.

Notwithstanding those doubts, the Court decided to proceed on the working assumption that in the light of the second House of Lords ruling in *Woolwich*, the applicant societies did have "possessions" in the form of vested rights to restitution which they sought to exercise in direct and indirect ways in the various legal proceedings launched in 1991 and 1992.

On that understanding the Court concluded that section 53 of the Finance Act 1991 and section 64 of the Finance (No 2) Act 1992 constituted an interference with the exercise of their rights since the concrete effects of both sections were to stifle the legal possibilities to assert them.

As to whether or not Parliament was justified in enacting section 53 and section 64 with retrospective effect, the Court had regard to the fact that the original intention of Parliament to tax the interest paid in the gap period had been stymied as a result of the first ruling of the House of Lords in *Woolwich*.

Section 53 was intended to remedy the technical deficiencies in the 1966 Regulations exposed in that ruling. In the Court's opinion, it could not be maintained that the aim of that measure was without reasonable foundation having regard to the public interest in ensuring that private entities did not enjoy the benefit of a windfall in a changeover to a new tax payment regime and did not deny the Exchequer revenue simply on account of inadvertent defects in the enabling tax legislation.

The Court also found it significant that the official decision to seek Parliament's approval for a retrospective amendment of the 1986 Regulations had been taken before the Leeds and the National and Provincial had issued their writs initiating restitution proceedings against the Inland Revenue and without reference to the imminent launch of those proceedings.

As to Section 64, the Court took the view that that measure had also to be seen as an attempt by Parliament to prevent its original intention from being circumvented. The challenge to the validity of the Treasury Orders in the form of the judicial review proceedings and the follow-up restitution proceedings were in effect an initiative on the part of all three societies to recover indirectly what section 53 had denied the Leeds and the National and Provincial.

It was stressed that that time around Parliament had even greater public interest motives for enacting retrospective legislation given that the challenge to the Treasury Orders placed at risk substantial amounts of revenue which had been collected from 1986 onwards.

Having regard to the wide margin of appreciation which a contracting state enjoyed in framing and adopting policies in the tax sector, the Court concluded that, in the circumstances, the retrospective measures adopted by Parliament, even if they had the effect of stifling the applicants' legal claims, did not upset the balance between their rights to restitution and the public interest in securing the payment of taxes.

II Alleged violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1 in conjunction with article 14

The Court took the view that that the applicant societies could not be considered to be in a relevantly similar situation to that of the Woolwich even if they had supported the legal proceedings which the latter had initiated. It was stressed in that respect that the Woolwich alone had borne the costs and expenses of litigation against the Inland Revenue on two occasions right up the House of Lords.

By the time the Leeds and the National and Provincial had issued their writs claiming restitution of the moneys they had paid to the Revenue, the Woolwich had already secured a victory in the House of Lords and had reasonable prospects of having the Court of Appeal ruling on their restitution claim upheld by the House of Lords.

In those circumstances, it could not be maintained that the applicant societies were in an analogous situation to that of the Woolwich. Even if that could be shown, it was the Court's view that Parliament had a reasonable and objective justification for excluding the Woolwich from the retrospective effects of section 53 of the Finance Act 1991 on account of the fact that that building society had secured a final judgment in its favour from the highest court in the land.

It was understandable that Parliament would not wish to interfere with that decision and deprive the Woolwich of the fruits of its victory.

As to the alleged discriminatory effect of section 64 of the Finance (No 2) Act 1992, the Court noted that that provision was of general application. Even if the Woolwich had no interest in impugning the legality of the Treasury Orders since it had recovered in full everything owing to it, it could not be maintained that section 64 perpetuated an unfair distinction between it and the applicant societies having regard to the Court's rejection of the discrimination argument levelled against section 53.

III Alleged violation of article 6(1)

The Court rejected the Government's argument that article 6 did not apply to the different legal proceedings launched by the applicant societies.

Notwithstanding the fiscal dimension of the litigation at issue, the Court concluded that the two sets of restitution proceedings were private law actions and the judicial review proceedings were closely intertwined with and contingent upon the outcome of the second set of restitution proceedings.

As to the merits of the applicants' complaint that that they had been denied their right of access to a court to vindicate their rights and recover the moneys they had handed over to the revenue, the Court noted at the outset that the effect of both section 53 and section 64 was to render their claims to restitution unwinnable.

The applicant societies had never actually been deliberately prevented from asserting their claims before a court.

Whether or not the action of the authorities could be considered to amount to a breach of article 6 had to be determined in the light of all the circumstances of the case, bearing in mind that the reasons adduced by the authorities to justify recourse to retrospective measures had to be subjected to close scrutiny.

Against that background, the Court noted that at the time the Leeds and the National and Provincial embarked on their restitution actions against the Revenue they were clearly conscious of the fact that Parliament intended that the interest paid by building societies to their investors during the gap period would be liable to tax.

Those two building societies could reasonably be considered to appreciate that Parliament would not be content to have that intention frustrated on account of the technical defects in the 1986 Regulations which allowed the Woolwich to secure a victory against the Revenue in the House of Lords.

There was too much revenue at stake and the public interest motives for retrospectively validating the impugned regulations were too important to allow other building societies to benefit from the vulnerability of the Treasury's situation following the final decision in the first *Woolwich* case.

The Court found it significant that both the Leeds and the National and Provincial both issued their writs immediately prior to the official announcement that Parliament would be asked to approve retrospective legislation to remedy the technical defects in the regulations. Those proceedings must be considered to have been an attempt to pre-empt the enactment of remedial legislation.

Concerning section 64 which was adopted by Parliament in full cognisance of the launch of the applicants' judicial proceedings, the Court considered that that measure was the response of Parliament to a further attempt to frustrate the original intention of Parliament.

Having been thwarted in their efforts to pursue their restitution claims as a result of the enactment of section 53, the Leeds and the National and Provincial, this time joined by the Yorkshire, sought to impugn the validity of the Treasury Orders and to follow up this action with a claim for restitution of the exact moneys which they had paid to the Revenue under the 1986 Regulations.

However, the Court considered that, having engaged the Treasury in another round of legal proceedings, the applicant societies must have appreciated that they could not safely rely on the Treasury remaining inactive in the face of a fresh challenge to the original intention of Parliament, all the more so since the challenge to the validity of the Treasury Orders put at risk the security of the legal basis for the collection of substantial amounts of revenue from 1986 onwards from banks, building societies and other deposit institutions.

Having regard therefore to the particular circumstances of the case including the presence of compelling public interest considerations militating in favour of legislative intervention and to the fact that the dispute between the Treasury and the applicants took place in the tax sector in an area where recourse to retrospective legislation was not confined to the United Kingdom, the Court concluded that the applicant societies could not justifiably complain that they were denied a right of access to a court for a judicial determination on their rights.

Accordingly, no breach of article 6(1) had been made out.

IV Alleged violation of article 6(1) in conjunction with article 14

The Court considered that the reasons which it adduced in support of its earlier conclusion that there had been no breach of article 1 of Protocol No 1 in conjunction with article 14 served equally to refute the applicant societies' complaints under this head.

هكذا من الأصل

Saatchi sues Vauxhall Motors over unpaid fees

By Jason Nissé

SAATCHI & SAATCHI Group, the advertising agency which last month demerged from Cordiant Communications, is suing Vauxhall Motors for £207,000 that Saatchi claims the carmaker owes it for work promoting the GM Card credit card.

Saatchi is claiming that Vauxhall owes it five months' fees and six months' notice after terminating a four-year old agreement with a Saatchi subsidiary earlier this year.

The fees total £103,885 and Saatchi is claiming a similar amount in lieu of terminating the notice agreement.

CME KHBB, a Saatchi subsidiary, was hired by Vauxhall to help to launch the GM Card in 1993. The early television advertisements featured Martin Shaw, the star of *The Professionals* and *Rhodes*.

The Saatchi business was paid on a retainer, originally £50,000 a month, but this was reduced to £26,000 and then £17,000 as part of an agreement made last February.

However, in May, Vauxhall fired Saatchi, saying it would stop paying the monthly retainer, with the April payment being the last. Since then, Saatchi has been arguing that Vauxhall should continue paying under the agreement.

Yesterday Saatchi told *The Times*: "We parted company with the client earlier this year but believe that Vauxhall has clear-cut contractural obligations it has yet to fulfil. Regrettably, we have had no alternative but to resort to legal action to protect the agency's commercial interests."

A spokesman for Vauxhall said: "The matter is being handled by our lawyers."

☐ Zenith, the media buying group jointly owned by Saatchi and Cordiant, has settled with Christine Walker, its former boss, in a deal that allows her to start her new agency. Zenith sued Ms Walker, who left in January, to prevent her approaching former clients. She has agreed not to talk to specified clients without written permission.

Walker Media is to be jointly owned by Ms Walker and M&C Saatchi, the agency formed by Lord Saatchi, former chairman of Saatchi & Saatchi. It will be formally launched in January, but has started work from M&C Saatchi's offices in Central London.

Penguin's Amazon adventure

By Raymond Snoddy

THE Penguin Group, the publisher owned by Pearson, yesterday said that Amazon.com, the Internet bookstore, may soon be Penguin's largest customer.

Michael Lynton, Penguin chairman and chief executive, said that Amazon bought $1 million of books from Penguin last year. This year's total looked likely to be $10 million, and the growth rate was 40 per cent a quarter. Mr Lynton said: "If this current growth continues in the next two to three years, they will probably be our largest customer."

More than 90 per cent of Penguin's US backlist sales come from Amazon. The enormous Internet backlist sales, Mr Lynton said, "could be of huge importance to us".

PETER TREVNOR

Roger Newton, right, chief executive of L Gardner Group, and Stuart Mollekin, finance director, reported annual pre-tax profits of £4.4 million (£2.5 million). Earnings were 21.3p a share (15.6p). The total dividend rises to 7p (6p) with a 4.7p final

Accounting rules simplified

By Graham Searjeant, financial editor

SMALL companies deluged by a steady stream of new accounting standards can now find relief — in yet another new rulebook.

After long debate and much controversy, the Accounting Standards Board (ASB) today publishes its *Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities*.

FRSSE brings together all the accounting rules from other standards that small companies need to meet in a single 71-page volume, albeit appended with about as much again in helpful hints.

The new simplified and consolidated rulebook cuts out more than three quarters of the text of the various separate published standards but may have to be updated for new ones. It applies to the vast majority of companies and analagous bodies that qualify as small under the Companies Act 1985, usually those with turnover up to £2.8 million a year.

Most new accounting standards have derogations for small entities and some, such as the financial reporting standard requiring statements of cashflow, do not apply at all to smaller businesses. In this and some other cases, however, the ASB recommends that small companies comply voluntarily in a simplified form.

Sir David Tweedie, the board's chairman, says: "I know that some want to go much further in exempting certain small companies from all accounting standards, but this document goes as far as the ASB believes it may safely go at present."

FRSSE comes into effect immediately for companies that want to use it.

Accountancy, page 30

BSE crisis lifts Shanks & McEwan

By Chris Ayres

THE BSE crisis may have caused financial devastation for farmers and food retailers, but it helped to boost profits at Shanks & McEwan, the UK's biggest landfill and waste disposal group.

Shanks yesterday reported a 9 per cent rise in pre-tax profits in the six months to September 27, from £11.6 million to £12.7 million, on turnover of £88.3 million, up 44 per cent. About £21 million of the increase in turnover came from the landfill tax.

Landfill use in the South of England rose sharply in the period, with the burning of meat and bone arising directly from the BSE crisis helping Rechem, its subsidiary. The company has commissioned two power stations, in Bedfordshire and in Lanarkshire.

The group's earnings per share were 4.3p (3.9p). A dividend of 1.4p (1.3p) will be paid on January 7.

Shanks said that, although results had been boosted by a one-off profit of £1.5 million as a result of the BSE crisis and the resolution of a claim over the sale of a division, steady second-half growth was expected.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Inchcape increases investment in Peru

INCHCAPE, the international distribution group, is to invest a further £41 million in its Coca-Cola bottling operations in Peru. This will give it a 50.1 per cent interest in Peru's largest Coca-Cola business, with about 90 per cent of the country's sales of Coca-Cola.

The business is to be formed through the merger of Embotelladora Latinoamericana, the Lima Coca-Cola bottler where Inchcape has management control, with Negociación Sur Peruana and Compañia Industrial Nor Peruana, the Coca-Cola bottlers for the south and north of Peru. The combined company had pro forma net assets of £113 million at June 30.

Dowty wins $100m order

DOWTY AEROSPACE, a division of TI Group, has won a $100 million (£59.76 million) order to supply components to General Electric Aircraft Engines of the US. The three-year deal starts in 1999. It is the largest won by Dowty's turbine engine components division, which specialises in engine ring technology and rigid tube fabrication, and will be carried out in North Carolina and Pennsylvania in the US.

Wolseley disposal

WOLSELEY, the UK building materials company, is selling its Hunterskil Howard subsidiary to AccuStaff for £45 million, it was announced yesterday. In addition, AccuStaff, an American business services group, has arranged for the repayment of inter-company debt amounting to £10 million. Hunterskil Howard's principal activity is the placement of contract staff in the UK and continental Europe.

Hewetson advances

HEWETSON, the building materials group, said that all its markets show signs of rising demand. Order books were now very strong and operating margins continued to improve, it said. In the half year to September 30 pre-tax profits rose to £2.18 million, from £728,000, on sales up to £35.79 million, from £25.88 million. Earnings per share were 8.59p (3.48p). A 2.25p interim dividend, up from 0.85p, is due on January 21.

NRG valued at £17.6m

SHARES in Northern Recruitment Group (NRG) will be priced at 108p, valuing the business at £17.6 million when the company makes its debut on the stock market on November 13 by way of a placing by Beeson Gregory. The issue will raise about £1.35 million, to help to fund expansion. In the year ended June 30 pre-tax profits rose to £1.72 million (£1 million) on turnover of £10.4 million (£7.33 million).

Raglan raises £6.8m

RAGLAN PROPERTIES, the investment and development company, is raising £6.83 million by selling properties to fund industrial sector acquisitions. Interim pre-tax profits rose from £1 million to £3.4 million, including a £2.5 million receipt from settlement of legal action. Earnings per share rose to 1.9p, from 0.44p. There is no interim dividend. A final dividend of not less than 1.2p in respect of the year is expected.

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0171 376 7878 Dealing: 0171 407 7080				
Prudential Funds				
UK Safeguard	139.12	148.25†	- 0.15	
Do NAV to Dec 19	136.63	138.63		
UK Equity Safeguard	165.22	176.76	+ 0.30	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	106.93	108.93		
Cash	951.16	955.92†		5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	353.90	375.10†	+ 2.30	1.74
UK Small Cos	77.35	82.72†	- 1.70	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	96.52	103.22		2.11
Geared UK Index	2235.46	2356.91†	+24.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd	80.76	83.43		
Monthly Inc	41.17	43.93†		8.72
International Funds				
American Gen	384.40	398.90†	- 0.60	
American Stat	260.67	278.76	+ 0.10	
JG US Index	2229.15	2349.76†	+11.00	1.00
European Gen	317.20	335.40	+ 1.40	
European Stat	139.55	149.24	+ 0.90	
Japan Gen	112.70	119.30†	- 0.70	
Asia Pacific	77.57	78.46†	- 0.10	
Pacific Stat	123.53	132.11	- 1.10	
Greater China	229.58	245.54	+ 1.90	
Latin America	108.79	114.20	+ 1.70	
Intl Growth	168.64	180.57	+ 0.60	
Balanced Exempt	155.80	161.30		
Global Strategy	45.74	53.19	+ 0.17	
AGA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	815.30	867.30	+ 3.70	2.62
General Inc	654.40	706.80	+ 2.60	2.62
UK Growth Acc	565.00	601.00	+ 2.00	2.49
UK Growth Inc	357.20	379.90	+ 1.20	2.49
Higher Inc Acc #	1029.00	1094.00	+ 3.00	4.64
Higher Inc Inc #	528.50	562.20	+ 1.90	4.64
Gilt/Fed Int Acc	226.70	241.50	- 0.20	5.70
Gilt/Fed Int Inc	95.24	100.60		5.70
Nth America	426.20	453.30	+ 3.30	
Europe	432.70	460.30	+ 2.90	0.61
Brit Growth	112.60	119.80	+ 0.40	2.32
Brit Financial Inc	140.90	149.80	+ 0.30	4.64
Brit Financial Inc	90.35	96.11	+ 0.18	4.64
Global Opps	110.30	117.30	+ 0.30	0.30
Balanced Acc	71.50	76.06	+ 0.16	2.52
Balanced Inc	63.35	69.53	+ 0.15	2.52
Japan Acc	35.28	37.53	- 0.23	
Pac Basin Acc	250.60	312.50	- 1.80	1.53
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	141.10	149.80	- 0.10	6.09
High Inc Equity	215.40	230.40	+ 1.10	4.38
Worldwide Bond	265.70	281.60†	- 0.20	3.51
American Growth	511.30	546.10	+ 3.60	0.31
Asian Pacific	246.50	263.60	+ 0.30	0.52
Assets & Earnings	332.30	355.40†	+ 1.80	2.63
Bond Income	230.50	248.70	+ 1.90	6.80
Extra Inc	43.18	45.94†	+ 0.10	9.06
General	310.40	330.30	+ 1.50	2.57
Global Opps	76.36	81.35	- 0.36	0.39
Japan	81.45	87.12	- 0.46	
Managed Inc	51.52	54.81†	+ 0.12	4.11
Mainstream	182.80	195.50	+ 1.00	1.14
US Emerging Cos	221.70	237.10	+ 1.40	
Ethical	88.92	94.49	+ 0.56	1.94
International	141.50	151.00	+ 0.70	0.58
Dividend & Growth	79.88	84.99	+ 0.32	4.11
Global Gnth & Inc	77.60	82.65	- 0.07	2.44
Latin America	80.76	85.92	+ 0.93	0.76
Capital Reserve	152.30	152.30	..	4.59
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
NSP UK Growth	108.80	115.80	+ 0.70	2.01
Equity Income #	153.60	163.40	+ 0.80	2.64
Extra Income #	295.30	313.60	+ 0.80	8.45
Smaller Cos	103.90	110.50†		2.69
International	126.00	134.00†	+ 0.80	1.35
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	77.61	80.69†	+ 0.41	
Emerging Mkts	65.91	68.65	+ 0.76	0.27
European	166.29	172.94	+ 1.55	
Extra Income #	56.68	59.65	+ 0.23	5.06
Far East Emg Gen	91.69	96.16	- 0.42	1.23
Fixed Interest #	27.67	28.77†	+ 0.06	8.11
Fixed Inc Tst #	177.75	186.60†	+ 1.30	8.00
Japan	155.04	161.08	- 0.05	
Latin American	68.21	72.15	+ 1.24	
Pacific	62.42	65.53†	- 0.08	0.57
Property	90.83	95.36	+ 0.10	1.38
UK Emerging Cos	70.49	76.16	+ 0.18	0.91
UK Growth	65.75	69.51†	+ 0.58	1.34
Abn World Port #	68.91	93.58	+ 0.57	2.63
Ethical	85.54	88.95	+ 0.39	1.13
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.84	53.84	- 0.02	6.65
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2499.00	2693.00		
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 9868				
Bestit Property #	111.10	118.10		4.81
ALLCHURCHES MV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 950				
Amity Income	105.66	113.17	+ 0.48	1.85
Income Builder Inc	95.65	102.82	+ 0.42	3.41
For AIB Dealer see Throgmorton				
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 528 911				
Central Oil Pens	135.90	141.10		
Footsie Pens Pens	79.05	82.12	..	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4262				
American Sm Cos	458.20	487.40	+ 2.70	
Bond	173.70	130.00†		6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	114.90	122.20	+ 0.30	1.90
Europe	349.90	371.10†	+ 4.00	
Euro Smlr Cos	125.60	134.10†	+ 0.30	0.31
High Income #	67.60	71.91†	+ 0.34	5.41
Income	400.60	426.40	+ 2.40	3.98
Japan	267.30	304.40†	+ 0.80	
Latin American	105.50	112.20	+ 1.60	
Pacific	86.59	92.12	- 0.36	0.80
UK Smlr Cos	60.21	67.24	+ 0.27	1.28
Japanese Sm Cos	506.80	523.10	- 1.10	
Mngd Fd	232.00	246.20†	+ 1.00	2.43
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 488 8673				
Brit & Oceas	410.40	434.10		0.62
Capital Gwth	194.20	163.10		2.57
World Opps	255.58	238.50		0.92
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0181 522 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.60	100.60†	+ 0.10	6.55
Cash Acc	130.40	130.40		6.55
Income #	689.20	735.20	+ 3.70	4.00
Income Builder #	79.62	84.79	+ 0.52	4.66
Intl Income	82.47	87.73	+ 0.18	1.53
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	101.80	108.30†	+ 0.50	2.21
500	519.20	568.30	+ 0.30	1.88
General	392.40	417.50†	- 2.40	1.56
Property	269.60	289.30		5.49
Trustee	274.80	292.30	+ 1.60	1.62
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	174.90	186.10	+ 1.00	1.50
FTSE 100	126.50	134.30	+ 1.10	1.84
Growth Acc	546.60	581.50	+ 3.60	1.57
Smaller Cos	61.39	65.48	+ 0.07	2.24
Smaller Cos Acc	71.94	78.67	- 0.09	2.24
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	233.10	235.90†	+ 0.60	
American Growth	153.90	163.10	+ 0.70	
Japan	101.70	107.50	- 1.40	
Japan Acc	102.90	108.10	- 1.40	
Japan Spec Sits	47.20	50.53	+ 0.93	
Worldwide	211.10	224.10	+ 0.20	0.74
Barclays Investment Portfolio:				
Managed Income	48.45	52.05	- 0.07	7.12
Mngd Gwth & Inc #	46.73	49.07	- 0.13	4.50
Managed Growth	45.41	48.57	- 0.22	0.59
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	172.60	182.40	+ 0.97	
Asian Smlr Cos	172.50	184.20	- 2.70	
Eastern	193.50	207.10	- 0.70	0.20
Equity Income #	121.30	129.30†	- 0.50	4.00
European Growth	114.10	120.60	- 4.10	0.63
Focus	429.98	459.72	+ 1.70	0.69
German Growth	104.60	115.80	- 0.20	0.50
Global Bond	73.05	76.82	+ 0.16	4.90
Global Growth	186.30	176.52	+ 0.67	0.48
Japan Growth	134.30	140.70	- 1.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	91.49	95.80	- 0.27	
Korea Trust	34.74	37.70	+ 0.52	
Pacific	170.25	181.40	+ 0.98	2.00
- do - Accum	329.60	350.60	+ 1.77	2.00
UK Growth	129.50	137.30	+ 0.50	3.07
UK Smaller Cos	118.70	126.80†	+ 0.20	1.90
Select Managers:	97.63	100.12	+ 0.10	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3000				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	102.30	109.90		
Special Oppor Inc	62.93	66.42		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	176.84	184.21†	- 1.09	0.95
- do - Accum	229.16	217.88†	- 1.39	0.95
Smaller Cos	177.65	187.01†	+ 0.30	0.44
Higher Yield #	67.79	70.64†	- 0.37	3.53
American Gth Inc	136.45	142.13	+ 1.15	
European Growth	190.91	198.84	+ 1.60	
- do - Accum	194.32	202.33	+ 1.62	
Mngd Pfdns Inc	59.13	61.60†	+ 0.24	1.22
- do - Accum	62.17	64.76	+ 0.25	1.22
Int Sport Opps	187.21	199.79	- 0.36	0.80
Pacific Gth	116.74	121.68	- 0.32	
UK Growth #	119.52	125.45	+ 0.26	2.07
UK Smaller Cos	109.80	123.80†	+ 0.20	1.90
Japanese Sm Cos	506.80	523.10	- 1.10	
Mngd Fd	232.00	246.20†	+ 1.00	2.43
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 488 8673				
Brit & Oceas	410.40	434.10		0.62
Capital Gwth	194.20	163.10		2.57
World Opps	255.58	238.50		0.92
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Shed Dated Sell	66.16	69.94	- 0.02	4.25
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 832 5050				
Growth	229.80	226.90	+ 1.00	1.54
UK Growth	256.90	270.60	+ 1.70	1.65
UK Income	179.43	188.90†	+ 0.79	3.72
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	257.10	273.10	+ 1.96	1.10
- do - Income Dist	147.70	156.80†	+ 0.60	3.79
- do - Accum	505.19	535.30†	+ 2.10	3.79
GB & Fed Int	42.87	45.16	- 0.04	5.69
Growth Units	314.50	333.80	+ 1.90	1.73
Bond	186.08	195.60	- 0.19	6.06
Intl Growth	231.70	246.00	- 1.30	2.29
North American	312.10	331.40	+ 1.60	
Far East	299.89	324.40	- 0.10	0.94
UK Smaller Cos	259.06	277.00	- 0.80	1.54
European	118.60	117.90	- 1.40	0.54
Japanese Growth	32.68	33.99	- 0.22	
High Income	352.50	380.30†	+ 1.00	3.03
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0181 831 7433 Eng 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	277.76	293.70†	- 0.38	
European Inc	116.70	123.90	+ 0.60	0.13
Smaller Cos (4-1)	110.00	117.10	+ 0.10	1.28
Growth	583.70	626.10	+ 4.40	1.65
Income & Growth #	557.90	594.20	+ 5.30	4.19
- do - Accum #	887.10	943.80	+ 8.30	4.14
Japan & Gen	50.64	54.05	- 0.53	
Half-Cap Gwth	1424.00	1481.00†	+ 6.00	1.53
- do - Accum	1785.00	1856.00†	+ 7.00	1.53
Special Sits	153.80	163.70	+ 1.10	1.91
High Yield	1607.00	1653.00†	+ 10.00	3.79
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 588 9700				
Cazenove Perform	132.48	119.77	- 0.22	0.34
American Portfolio	156.47	165.86	+ 1.29	0.73
European Portfolio	180.13	178.21†	+ 2.86	0.42
High Income	54.95	57.37†	- 0.01	6.65
Japanese Portfolio	40.66	42.51	- 0.23	
Pacific Portfolio	122.25	131.48	- 0.07	0.91
UK Equity	160.52	117.28†	+ 0.38	2.84
UK Equity & Bd	63.19	66.65†	+ 0.18	5.15
UK Smlr Cos	54.70	58.51	- 0.08	1.82
CIF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
For prices see 14/11/97				
Fed Int Sec Inc	164.65	165.21	- 0.17	8.65
Fed Int Sec Acc	172.12	172.80	- 0.19	...
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	879.35	832.63	- 5.72	3.90
Investment Acc	4225.96	4289.62	-27.50	...
Fixed Int Inc	133.00	133.54	+ 0.35	8.69
Fixed Int Acc	364.22	365.28	+ 0.92	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8000				
Buckman Intl	94.10	98.95†	+ 0.08	5.06
Black Bio-Tech	41.15	44.59		
Acorn Ethical Tst	212.28	222.91		0.41
City Fin Assets	86.31	90.63†		2.89
City Fin Intl	87.56	91.95†	+ 1.23	0.06
Hstrc Hse Can	360.86	383.68		1.62
Dudley World Grth	142.70	151.26	+ 4.44	
Skye Utilities	77.98	79.34†	- 0.07	4.51
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	53.66	56.93	+ 0.15	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	96.90	100.06	+ 0.61	
Dragon Growth	48.93	53.40	- 0.40	1.34
Equity High Inc	111.76	118.26	+ 0.61	3.28
- do - Accum	167.79	177.55	+ 0.93	3.28
Extra Income Inc	28.47	29.96†	+ 0.01	6.26
Extra Income Acc	33.10	34.83	+ 0.01	6.26
European Gwth	78.86	83.45	+ 0.64	0.19
Evergreen	35.07	37.50	+ 0.07	
General Equity	128.89	136.83	+ 0.45	2.56
Japan Growth	34.49	36.89	- 0.12	
Pentlands Gwth	78.44	83.00	- 0.45	1.75
Ped Sm Cos Inc	47.69	44.53†	- 0.07	1.28
- do - Accum	46.10	47.73	- 0.07	1.28
Retirement Inc #	33.19	35.31	+ 0.08	5.18
Special Sits	53.34	57.36	+ 0.33	2.75
UK & Overseas	66.30	70.15	+ 0.49	0.55
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	79.54	82.64	+ 0.32	3.61
Capital	97.25	101.38	+ 0.49	1.96
High Income	95.48	97.79†	+ 0.20	6.52
Top 50	68.92	72.83	+ 0.48	2.00
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	221.32	230.46†	+ 1.34	4.19
Long Gilt	49.95	51.38†	+ 0.02	5.23
Monthly Inc Plus	57.15	59.54	- 0.03	7.53
Preference Share	54.48	56.76†	+ 0.01	6.87
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	151.18	157.91†	+ 0.62	5.33
Managed Fund	82.64	86.30†	+ 0.49	2.62
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	55.06	57.36	+ 0.16	1.46
- do - Accum	66.84	69.59	+ 0.18	1.46
UK & General	119.42	124.41†	+ 0.40	2.45
- do - Accum	180.03	188.72†	+ 3.28	2.26
UK Growth	235.30	245.13	+ 1.35	1.60
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	257.85	268.62	+ 2.54	0.50
Far Eastern Gth	101.04	105.25	- 0.42	0.27
Global Bond	71.72	74.72†	- 0.08	6.86
Japan Growth	90.66	94.45	- 0.31	
North Amer Gth	295.07	308.44	+ 1.06	
Oriental Growth	61.00	63.55	- 0.25	0.77
Worldwide Growth	78.70	81.99	+ 0.42	0.32
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.90	91.90†	+ 0.01	6.23
Homeowner Fund	98.84	105.16	+ 0.52	2.85
Guilter Fund	171.18	182.11	+ 1.31	1.23
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5868				
Consistent Ut	39.70	42.46		2.92
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 356				
Growth	193.40	205.70†	+ 0.40	2.10
Income	86.89	91.48	+ 0.34	3.94
European Growth	90.28	96.04	+ 1.08	0.25
Recovery	199.30	212.00	+ 0.10	1.92
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1162.30	1182.10		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 378				
European Inc	81.19	86.13	+ 1.06	0.37
Fellowship Tst	118.70	126.30†	+ 0.20	1.16
Income #	326.20	347.00†	+ 1.80	4.00
- do - Accum #	902.00	959.50	+ 5.00	4.00
Smaller Cos	236.60	251.60	- 0.10	0.73
- do - Accum	295.50	314.30	- 0.20	0.73
Gth Portfolio	113.60	120.80	+ 0.70	1.31
High Inc Port #	97.01	103.20	+ 0.50	4.05
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1798.20	1838.50		0.57
UK Small Cos	2034.30	2423.30		2.83
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	250.00	257.60		
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	203.80	216.80	+ 0.90	1.49
UK High Inc Inc	321.80	336.90	+ 1.30	3.19
- do - Accum	369.10	386.80	+ 1.70	3.19
UK Fixd & F I Inc	64.53	68.50	- 0.07	5.40
Emerging Opps	124.50	132.40	+ 0.70	0.76
UK Smlr Cos	74.09	78.81	+ 0.28	0.86
Extra Income Inc	53.96	57.38		6.50
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Convertibles #	24.72	26.27	- 0.04	5.33
Enterprise	120.90	128.20	+ 0.30	1.95
Equity Income #	167.88	178.30	+ 0.30	2.59
European	74.24	78.52	+ 1.01	
Financial	68.03	72.28†	+ 0.86	1.38
Growth & Inc #	344.50	366.50	+ 1.50	2.39
High Dist #	214.30	227.70†	+ 0.90	3.73
International	418.76	444.90	+ 3.50	0.22
Int Cap Inc	117.85	125.80†	+ 0.50	2.15
Latin American	35.70	37.93	+ 0.72	
Mgd Gwth Port	95.57	99.97	+ 4.22	0.70
Pacific	70.37	74.77†	+ 0.56	
Pref High Inc	25.44	27.03†	- 0.06	6.66
Tokyo	157.70	166.70	- 0.50	
UK Smaller Cos	258.30	272.30	+ 0.10	1.10
Japan Sm Cos	261.80	277.40	- 0.70	
Nth Amer	522.70	553.30	+ 5.80	0.53
UK Inc & Gwth	308.20	327.80†	+ 1.20	2.26
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BB Director Dlgs	125.57	133.73	- 0.50	0.96
Growth Acc	306.03	326.13	-2.65	0.21
Income	611.24	652.64	-43.40	5.71
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	239.40	254.78		1.02
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	110.04	115.63	+ 1.84	1.46
Ethical Tst	55.14	58.04	+ 0.39	0.91
Far Eastern	237.81	250.33	+ 0.75	1.77
High Income	170.81	179.59	+ 0.31	4.04
UK Inter Trding	63.18	66.51	+ 0.03	2.57
Intl Growth	142.75	150.26	+ 0.58	1.34
North American	185.03	194.77	+ 1.96	0.31
Pelican	171.10	180.10†	+ 0.01	2.75
Smaller Cos	74.94	78.88	+ 0.17	2.16
Special Sits	88.23	92.87	- 0.04	2.83
Tst of Inv Tsts	232.39	244.62	+ 0.98	1.59
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	128.53	136.37†	+ 0.08	
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.74	61.26	- 0.02	0.47
High Income #	42.70	45.28†	+ 0.08	11.04
Wst & Gl Opps	51.23	55.00†	- 0.03	
Zero Preference	46.47	51.43		
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Acad Tst	115.40	127.70†	+0.400	1.97
Shared Dividends	342.10	363.90†	+0.000	2.75
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Call free: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		0.60
Bond Funds:				
Intl Bond	26.03	28.58†	- 0.06	5.42
Strategic Inc	29.68	31.61†	- 0.02	5.48
Income Funds:				
High Income	30.66	32.18†	+ 0.03	4.69
Income Plus	164.90	175.40	+ 0.40	3.42
European Income	60.25	64.01	+ 0.79	1.75
UK Index Gwth	37.85	38.12	- 0.16	2.19
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	37.60	34.78†	- 0.04	
American	412.30	438.40	- 3.60	
Asia Sect Sits	336.10	351.60	- 3.90	
Japan Smaller Cos	19.81	21.03	- 0.04	
European	291.10	309.60†	+ 2.00	0.44
European Opps	104.00	110.00	+ 0.90	0.82
Global Fin	37.75	39.93	+ 0.21	0.41
UK Growth	148.09	157.60	+ 0.70	1.24
Growth & Inc	214.60	228.40	+ 1.00	2.09
Pacific Rim	32.57	01.32	- 0.30	1.12
Japan Spec Sits	53.48	57.31	- 0.27	
Japan	157.40	165.70	- 0.70	
Managed Intl	419.80	446.60	+ 2.30	0.60
Worldwide Plus	76.14	79.60	+ 0.70	0.34
Recovery	71.54	76.18	- 0.51	1.73
South E Asia	152.00	162.00	- 0.90	
Special Sits	825.10	947.70	+ 1.30	1.23
Specialist Funds				
Cash Access Dists	121.68	121.68	+ 0.01	6.60
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 614 2700				
Balanced #	162.00	163.70	+ 1.70	1.69
Pension Pfd Inc #	107.80	108.80	+ 0.10	2.08
Cap Prod	124.00	165.70	+ 1.50	0.09
General Opps	162.00	163.10†	+ 1.20	3.06
Growth Inc	45.25	45.70†	+ 0.15	1.62
Private Portfolio	542.50	548.70	+ 3.40	1.12
FORESTER & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Fax 01277 690 350				
Fore Smlr Cos	185.80	198.80	- 1.00	
High Income	21.69	23.05†	- 0.02	9.76
Japan Smlr Cos	13.52	13.47†	- 0.07	
US Smaller Cos	532.70	566.60†	+ 2.80	
FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Eng 0171 330 8500 Dealing 0345 773517				
American Growth	101.70	108.00	- 0.10	
- do - Accum	101.90	108.00	- 0.10	
Asian Smlr Cos	773.50	821.40	+ 5.20	
- do - Accum	790.70	842.10	- 5.10	
Capital Tst	420.50	447.30†	+ 0.50	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	626.00	666.00†	+ 0.50	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	65.30	69.78	+ 0.12	1.00
- do - Accum	70.07	74.82	+ 0.14	1.00
Convertible	153.40	154.00	- 0.40	4.00
- do - Accum	240.20	251.90	+ 0.60	5.30
Emerging Markets	68.48	73.16	+ 0.03	0.54
- do - Accum	69.60	73.74	+ 0.03	0.54
European	123.00	130.80	+ 1.50	0.40
- do - Accum	134.50	208.00	+ 1.60	0.47
Extra Income	46.30	49.10	- 2.42	3.99
- do - Accum	76.82	81.47	- 4.00	3.99
Financial	238.50	243.10†	+ 1.50	0.94
- do - Accum	244.70	260.50†	+ 1.70	0.94
Gilt Inc	63.14	65.10†	- 0.24	7.04
- do - Accum	104.06	107.20†	- 0.40	7.04
Health Fund Inc	291.26	312.20†	+ 3.10	
- do - Accum	291.70	313.20†	+ 3.10	
Income & Growth	270.10	287.30	+ 1.80	3.54
- do - Accum	441.90	470.10	+ 3.00	3.54
Intl Growth	454.90	484.40†	+ 2.00	
- do - Accum	505.10	537.60†	+ 2.30	
Japan & Gen	129.60	137.60	- 1.00	
- do - Accum	138.90	139.00	- 1.00	
Monthly Inc #	213.29	248.13†	+ 0.21	
- do - Accum #	241.90	257.10†	+ 0.10	3.98
Managed Port Inc	133.70	140.70	+ 0.70	1.27
- do - Accum	148.90	156.80	+ 0.80	1.27
Sterling Income #	64.14	65.40	+ 0.34	5.17
- do - Accum #	77.08	82.34	+ 0.42	5.17
Recovery	279.40	341.60	- 0.10	
Smlr Cos	277.10	400.30		
UK Growth	75.46	82.09	+ 0.50	1.79
Pacific Portfolio	54.20	58.10	+ 1.40	1.12
FORESTER & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Fax 01277 690 350				
Fore Smlr Cos	185.80	198.80	- 1.00	
High Income	21.69	23.05†	- 0.02	9.76
Japan Smlr Cos	13.52	13.47†	- 0.07	
US Smaller Cos	532.70	566.60†	+ 2.80	
FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Eng 0171 330 8500 Dealing 0345 773517				
American Growth	101.70	108.00	- 0.10	
- do - Accum	101.90	108.00	- 0.10	
Asian Smlr Cos	773.50	821.40	+ 5.20	
- do - Accum	790.70	842.10	- 5.10	
Capital Tst	420.50	447.30†	+ 0.50	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	626.00	666.00†	+ 0.50	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	65.30	69.78	+ 0.12	1.00
- do - Accum	70.07	74.82	+ 0.14	1.00
Convertible	153.40	154.00	- 0.40	4.

Modest gains after late rally

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
628	407	Allied Domecq	500	+ 3	5.4	15.0
625	385	Bulmer (HP)	448	- 5	4.1	12.3
75	40	Burn Stewart	48	...	0.8	18.9
1040	865	Chateauneuf A	975	...	1.7	24.1
538	425	Grand Met	542	- 3	3.5	17.4
633	424	Guinness	548	- 2	3.5	15.1
340	290	Highland Dist	322	- ½	3.5	14.6
335	213	Midleton Dist	346	+ 1	12.3	7.3
108	52	Morgan W	56	...	7.0	13.8
2000	1450	SA Breweries	1563	+ 9	2.2	...

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
1321	918	ABN AMRO	1206	...	2.7	17.0
891	710	Abbey Nat	868	+ 6	3.6	15.9
770	535	Alliance & Leic	686	+ 6	3.0	15.0
653	388	Allied Irish	516	...	3.5	14.8
616	353	Anz New Z	431	- 9	4.4	...
4931	3875	Bank America	4475	+ 189	...	...
548	391	Bank Scotland	500	- 5	2.2	13.9
1800	1070	Barclays	1531	+ 31	2.7	14.6
814	517	Bk of Ireland	767	...	2.9	18.9
8969	6009	Citicorp	7940	+ 169	...	...
1759	1268	Commerzbank	1681	+ 9	2.0	...
652	478	Dai Ichi Kan Y	508	- 8	0.8	...
4598	2700	Deutsche Bk	3900	+ 8	1.6	...
1200	759	Equitb Sagis	1209	+ 9	3.9	...
947	489	Fuji Bank Y	502	- 19	0.8	...
2099	1272	HSBC	1465	+ 2	3.8	12.1
1225	1226	HSBC HK	1425	+ 15	4.0	11.5
783	507	Halifax	694	...	2.7	23.4
645	483	Irish Perm	585	...	2.6	16.2
860	424	Lloyds TSB	762	+ 4	2.4	21.9
1008	669	Nat Aust Bk	880	+ 19	4.2	13.2
1012	863	Nat West	972	- 7	4.3	13.8
504	449	Northern Rock	484	+ 6	2.3	18.1
723	508	Syd Bk Bank	650	+ 5	3.7	14.0
1095	592	Sumitomo Chart	974	+ 19	2.9	11.8
2164	2164	Wells Fargo	2164	...	1.9	...
403	313	Westpac	357	+ 3	4.1	...
373	272	Woolwich	295	- 1	3.3	17.5

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
878	595	Bass	831	- 7	3.9	15.6
68	43	Bk for Inv Dis	48	+ ½	4.8	9.8
305	132	Burkland Bre	144	...	5.2	9.6
152	121	City Centre Rest	130	...	2.4	20.2
744	578	Compass Gp	629	+ 4	1.8	28.1
305	250	Eldridge P 'A'	260	...	2.7	14.3
265	227	Enterprise Inns	251	...	3.3	18.4
485	412	Fuller Sm 'A'	452	...	2.0	15.1
586	310	Greenalls Gp	557	+ 2	5.8	8.5
610	518	Greene King	581	+ 2	3.2	13.9
237	152	Grosvenor Rest	203	...	3.9	21.2
293	218	Groupe Chez Gee	279	...	1.5	...
298	229	Hardy Nexus	238	+ 7	4.8	...
2850	2455	Hall J	2832	- 12	3.0	14.2
78	58	Inv Business	60	...	3.4	8.7
357	300	Mansfield	309	...	2.8	13.5
315	232	Minster Pump	275	+ 3	3.9	9.5
615	495	Morland	502	- 3	3.2	12.9
268	210	Old Bog Pub	256	- 3	1.2	20.2
47	18	Paramount	21	...	...	...
853	527	PizzaExpress	756	+ 5	0.5	30.8
437	327	Ransomes (H)	332	...	1.9	29.4
376	282	Regent Inns	283	+ 5	1.5	...
130	102	SFI	116	...	0.8	34.8
768	566	Scot & Newc	675	- 3	4.0	14.5
306	222	Vaux Group	242	+ 2	5.5	10.9
1825	1105	Wolverhampton 10p	1617	+ 10	0.8	...
863	620	Whitbread	801	+ 11	3.8	13.6
708	450	Yoshinoya D	457	+ 4	0.8	...
362	278	Yates Rest	378	...	1.0	30.3
702	615	Young 'A'	675	...	2.8	26.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
52	15	AAF Inds	22	+ 2	...	...
230	170	Abbey	230	...	3.2	...
369	237	Allen	369	...	2.6	21.8
1660	90	Amec	141	- 2	3.8	...
512	347	Amec	457	...	2.7	14.9
690	465	Anderson Sykes	617	- 2	2.3	15.2
180	111	Ashtead	170	- ½	1.3	23.5
48	29	Ashwoldt	38	...	4.7	8.2
39	24	Bandk	30	...	4.5	26.6
64	47	Bardon	53	+ 1	3.1	18.3
291	236	Barratt Devel	257	...	4.3	13.2
210	154	Beazer	182	- ½	4.5	11.7
398	299	Bellway	373	- ½	3.1	12.2
22	16	Bellwinch	20	...	...	9.0
52	30	Ben Bailey	48	...	4.1	8.0
737	580	Berkeley (DA)	644	+ 7	1.8	14.0
172	125	Bett Bros	129	...	5.6	4.4
355	230	Bent (Henry)	325	...	3.2	17.9
1295	971	Bernden Hse	1225	...	3.0	18.4
37	27	Bilbrook Gp	34	...	3.3	6.5
72	42	Br Bldg & Eng	72	...	...	...
159	108	Bryant	121	...	5.2	13.0
125	99	CALA	105	...	4.4	8.4
67	24	Campbell & Ross	44	...	...	...
88	53	Charles T	81	...	6.1	9.8
105	71	Chartbrooke	92	...	3.4	13.6
111	80	Crest Nicholson	110	...	9.6	13.6
302	87	Cussins	91	+ 2	5.8	8.1
177	147	Dev Secur	154	...	3.7	18.2
24	15	Driflmelt	19	...	6.9	12.4
1076	857	Gleeson (MJ)	1050	...	2.2	...
320	245	Hawtock Esm	266	...	2.3	16.0
284	178	Hewden-Stuart	167	...	2.5	22.4
21	18	Howard Alloys	18	...	8.2	14.5
122	123	Howden-Stuart	167	...	2.5	22.4
21	18	Howard Alloys	18	...	8.2	14.5
92	15	AAF Inds	22	+ 2	...	...
230	170	Abbey	230	...	3.2	...
369	237	Allen	369	...	2.6	21.8
1660	90	Amec	141	- 2	3.8	...
512	347	Amec	457	...	2.7	14.9
690	465	Anderson Sykes	617	- 2	2.3	15.2
180	111	Ashtead	170	- ½	1.3	23.5
48	29	Ashwoldt	38	...	4.7	8.2
39	24	Bandk	30	...	4.5	26.6
64	47	Bardon	53	+ 1	3.1	18.3
291	236	Barratt Devel	257	...	4.3	13.2
210	154	Beazer	182	- ½	4.5	11.7
398	299	Bellway	373	- ½	3.1	12.2
22	16	Bellwinch	20	...	...	9.0
52	30	Ben Bailey	48	...	4.1	8.0
737	580	Berkeley (DA)	644	+ 7	1.8	14.0
172	125	Bett Bros	129	...	5.6	4.4
355	230	Bent (Henry)	325	...	3.2	17.9
1295	971	Bernden Hse	1225	...	3.0	18.4
37	27	Bilbrook Gp	34	...	3.3	6.5
72	42	Br Bldg & Eng	72	...	...	...
159	108	Bryant	121	...	5.2	13.0
125	99	CALA	105	...	4.4	8.4
67	24	Campbell & Ross	44	...	...	...
88	53	Charles T	81	...	6.1	9.8
105	71	Chartbrooke	92	...	3.4	13.6
111	80	Crest Nicholson	110	...	9.6	13.6
302	87	Cussins	91	+ 2	5.8	8.1
177	147	Dev Secur	154	...	3.7	18.2
24	15	Driflmelt	19	...	6.9	12.4
1076	857	Gleeson (MJ)	1050	...	2.2	...
320	245	Hawtock Esm	266	...	2.3	16.0
284	178	Hewden-Stuart	167	...	2.5	22.4
21	18	Howard Alloys	18	...	8.2	14.5
122	123	Howden-Stuart	167	...	2.5	22.4
21	18	Howard Alloys	18	...	8.2	14.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
58	33	Aggregate Ind	53	+ ½	4.7	23.8
388	256	BPB	325	- 1	4.0	14.4
110	66	Baggeridge Bk	81	...	4.5	23.1
64	27	Blockleyt	48	...	0.4	...
462	305	Blue Circle	360	+ 5	4.3	15.3
107	78	Brendon PLC	101	...	6.4	13.8
152	119	Br Dredging	146	...	5.3	11.1
756	592	CRH	712	...	1.4	17.5
58	42	Caledonian Roy	44	...	3.7	4.4
192	137	Carpet	181	...	5.3	11.0
273	183	Cavendish	191	- ½	6.2	9.4
133	102	Cerabos pf	104	...	9.7	...
69	50	Chilton Gp	58	...	7.3	5.8
272	201	Dyson (JAS)	254	...	3.3	12.5
64	45	Dyson A	121	...	5.9	7.0
4	2	Earconex	2	...	...	...
290	210	Epwin	210	...	5.5	12.8
103	83	Gibbs & Dandy	102	...	4.7	10.9
16.5	116	Graham Gas	164	...	4.4	23.7
365	167	Hartstead (JH)	252	...	4.6	18.5
334	271	Hanson	303	+ 2	4.9	12.1
297	201	Hepworth	242	- ½	5.4	16.5
128	72	Heywood	124	+ 1	5.3	5.1
358	230	Heywd Wms	242	...	7.1	10.0
75	50	Holdcroft	52	...	4.8	19.8
530	275	Johnson	350	...	4.3	12.6
84	62	Lilleshall	79	+ ½	4.0	9.7
137	100	Marley	105	- ½	5.5	10.1
180	119	Marshalls	137	+ ½	4.7	21.0
457	361	Meyer Int	378	+ ½	4.0	16.1
95	68	Moncrieff	78	...	3.2	19.3
183	110	Pilkington	132	- 17	4.5	16.5
254	194	Polypipe	215	...	1.9	16.2
27	14	Quigley	21	+ ½	...	31.1
1947	821	RMC Rmf	913	+ 1	3.6	12.8
361	211	Redland	329	...	5.3	17.3
41	21	Rotherwd	39	...	5.7	19.9
138	91	Rugby Group	130	- 1	3.8	25.6
113	83	Russell (AV)	87	...	5.7	19.3
346	241	SSL	289	+ 4	3.2	34.7
5	1	SSP	2	...	...	...
237	211	Stanley & Fisher	226	...	...	...
22	9	Spring Ram	17	...	...	...
157	152	Steetbrace Holdgs	153	...	6.7	10.0
134	93	Tarmac	115	...	5.0	14.6
78	57	Tilbury	67	...	7.3	6.3
573	436	Travis Perkins	548	...	2.3	19.6
69	34	Tredair	53	...	6.2	18.6
549	422	Wolseley	488	+ 3	2.9	15.8

CHEMICALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
173	142	Albright & Wilf	159	- 1	5.1	16.6
137	99	Allied Colloids	117	+ 1½	3.4	17.4
135	100	Amber Ind	100	...	7.2	6.2
117½	91½	Ashland Gp	115	...	1.7	21.2
1	0½	Avgar Ind	1	...	...	...
2537	1965	BOC Gp	2075	+ 49	2.8	...
1195	854	BOC	1060	+ 11	3.3	18.2
368	248	BTP	354	- 2½	4.4	16.5
2559	1984	Bayer (DM50)	2127	+ 10	2.8	...
122	68	Bend Chemcst	115	- 5	3.6	12.3
266	187	Br Vita	238	- 4	4.5	12.8
132	132	Bicozzer Monrl	153	...	7.1	8.4
215	201	Cannaig (N)	207	...	3.9	12.4
250	165	City Technology	229	...	2.9	21.5
407	273	Croda Int	373	- 4	7.5	13.2
400	246	Dowdal	385	+ ½	4.5	9.5
980	257	Dowflmf	222	...	3.7	15.7
337	238	Elf & Fragrnt	307	+ 1	4.1	13.3
73	49	Elm Colour	64	...	6.1	13.8
144	51	Fabrion	143	...	...	...
92	32	Hickson	89	- ½	...	12.5
2795	2284	Hoechst	2459	+ 119	2.8	...
197	118	Holliday Chem	188	...	3.7	13.4
117	68	ICI	89	...	4.1	30.9
250	165	Imperial	241	...	3.3	12.8
180	113	Inbon	144	...	4.7	21.7
774	582	Laporte	656	+ 4½	4.4	13.2
192	115	Mondeo	157	...	9.1	19.7
91	39	Monsanto	50	...	5.5	6.6
36	22	Nationalist	26	+ ½	4.7	8.3
345	240	Porvair	330	...	2.2	24.3
246	174	Scapa	243	+ ½	3.2	13.2
29	18	Scapdle Spnk	28	...	6.5	8.2
1887	1132	Smith Chem	1887	+ 55	0.4	28.5
238	147	Vectra	229	- 2	2.6	21.5
692	535	Wilmslow Int	670	...	4.9	12.5
243	158	Victor Exp	218	...	5.3	...
357	302	Yule Catto	353	...	3.5	14.1

DISTRIBUTORS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
212	149	Acton Gp Sylist	188	...	1.6	...
418	275	Adam & Harvey	357	...	1.3	5.4
21	6	Appledore	11	...	1.1	...
90	57	Applegarth	78	...	5.7	...
9	1	Arch Br Eng	2	...	...	...
580	486	BSS Group	525	+ 9½	4.9	17.4
76	37	Bowing Plants	164	...	...	...
39	34	Bugle Int	39	...	3.2	7.9
688	538	Bunzl	612	...	3.5	12.6
27	12	Burgand Gp	16	...	1.8	12.6
119	39	Bnd Fdwgst	107	...	5.7	6.6
360	280	Calgye	325	...	4.8	10.9

ELECTRICITY

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
439	184	Br Energy	374	- 12	4.6	72.7
655	462	Energy Group	626	+ 11	4.2	11.4
1195	192	National Grid	288	+ 1½	4.9	11.8
580	427	National Pwr	511	+ 3½	5.1	9.5
492	327	Nthern Ireld	453	- 1	5.6	13.7
797	585	Powergen	698	+ 12	4.6	11.1
478½	319	Hydro-Elect	434	...	5.1	10.4
900	381	Scottish Power	439	+ 2	5.5	10.7
508	373	Southern Elec	453	- 6	5.8	12.5

ENGINEERING

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
592	370	AMI	407	...	2.8	13.3
52	19	ASW	43	...	...	...
370	226	Abstrac	312	...	3.4	12.4
163	101	Aida	135	...	3.3	25.7
232	139	Alex & Lacy	170	...	5.2	8.6
109	50	Ayrshire Metal	99	...	8.9	5.5
450	314	BBA	401	+ 2	2.1	20.3
125	79	BHI	103	+ ½	5.0	6.3
102	54	Babcock	95	- 1	1.8	...
11	6	Bailey (CH)	7	...	4.6	...
132	76	Bryan (Charles)	110	+ 1	3.4	12.8
35	26	Bundcrd "A"	27	...	3.7	12.5
57	37	Bunzl Cygnet	48	- ½	3.8	11.7
185	134	Burndept	159	...	3.7	23.6
85	61	Bulldog Lean	79	...	6.3	...
1087	880	Burgoyne	1005	...	1.0	27.1
54	37	Bush Inds	42	...	...	...
39	18	Bussey	30	...	5.9	7.7
1794	1189	Br Aerospace†	1680	+ 10	1.3	20.4
183	133	Br Steel	162	+ 2½	7.7	11.9
141	101	Brooke Tool	120	...	3.7	7.9
22	11	Brunel	15	...	4.0	5.3
122	72	Bullough	116	- 1	6.0	20.4
36	22	Cadnet	33	...	4.5	...
223	174	Carclo Eng	222	...	3.1	15.3
207	135	Cookson	205	...	2.9	18.6
178	130	Chesterton Hill	170	...	6.0	9.2
862	715	Charter	832	- 3	4.2	12.2
366	76	Chasmore	148	...	8.4	...
209	173	Cycle Devices	205	...	3.5	24.8
339	181	Cutthroat	339	...	1.8	29.5
480	295	Dobson (A)	460	...	...	...
185	100	Concentric	124	...	7.1	11.2
237	169	David Brown†	209	...	5.2	12.4
80	52	Delta	66	...	5.2	11.2
24	9	Deco	15	...	2.0	...
75	57	Dwek (B)	66	...	5.7	19.1
105	75	Engineers†	105	...	5.8	13.3
375	205	Fenner	305	+ 3½	3.2	12.5
207	149	Fenner	193	...	...	...
1	0½	Avgar Ind	1	...	...	...
2537	1965	BOC Gp	2075	+ 49	2.8	...
1195	854	BOC	1060	+ 11	3.3	18.2
368	248	BTP	354	- 2½	4.4	16.5
2559	1984	Bayer (DM50)	2127	+ 10	2.8	...
122	68	Bend Chemcst	115	- 5	3.6	12.3
266	187	Br Vita	238	- 4	4.5	12.8
132	132	Bicozzer Monrl	153	...	7.1	8.4
215	201	Cannaig (N)	207	...	3.9	12.4
250	165	City Technology	229	...	2.9	21.5
407	273	Croda Int	373	- 4	7.5	13.2
400	246	Dowdal	385	+ ½	4.5	9.5
980	257	Dowflmf	222	...	3.7	15.7
337	238	Elf & Fragrnt	307	+ 1	4.1	13.3
73	49	Elm Colour	64	...	6.1	13.8
144	51	Fabrion	143	...	...	...
92	32	Hickson	89	- ½	...	12.5
2795	2284	Hoechst	2459	+ 119	2.8	...
197	118	Holliday Chem	188	...	3.7	13.4
117	68	ICI	89	...	4.1	30.9
250	165	Imperial	241	...	3.3	12.8
180	113	Inbon	144	...	4.7	21.7
774	582	Laporte	656	+ 4½	4.4	13.2
192	115	Mondeo	157	...	9.1	19.7
91	39	Monsanto	50	...	5.5	6.6
36	22	Nationalist	26	+ ½	4.7	8.3
345	240	Porvair	330	...	2.2	24.3
246	174	Scapa	243	+ ½	3.2	13.2
29	18	Scapdle Spnk	28	...	6.5	8.2
1887	1132	Smith Chem	1887	+ 55	0.4	28.5
238	147	Vectra	229	- 2	2.6	21.5
692	535	Wilmslow Int	670	...	4.9	12.5
243	158	Victor Exp	218	...	5.3	...
357	302	Yule Catto	353	...	3.5	14.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
493	360	Acal	388	- ½	3.2	12.3
340	139	Acorn	139	...	...	...
812	555	Advbdl	812	+ 12	0.5	46.1
48	32	Aries	37	...	4.0	8.8
164	118	Aztec	127	...	1.9	14.9
77	52	Axtel	52	...	8.1	...
293	136	BICC	180	...	4.2	15.7
173	72	Beckett Hunter	73	...	18.2	...
78	22	Betacraft	35	...	2.1	18.7
382	205	Black	205	...	6.6	7.7
457	382	Bowthorpe†	387	+ ½	3.3	15.7
13	9	Bulgin 'A'	14	...	6.7	17.0
157	127	CML Micro	151	...	5.0	19.4
39	22	Channel Hldgs	29	- 2	7.0	10.2
49	37	Chloride	40	- ½	2.0	10.9
84	54	Clayhithe	71	...	8.0	8.1
837	537	Coleby	600	...	2.3	18.1
389	257	Dallet	309	...	6.1	11.4
387	255	Domino	360	...	3.9	16.0
85	62	Dowding Mills	77	...	6.1	13.2
306	220	Duch	280	...	0.8	20.7
5625	3590	Electrocomp	5640	+ 43	2.0	26.4
57	18	Elmdr	24	- ½	2.0	16.4
3100	1771	Electron 'B'	2753	+ 6	0.4	...
78	27	Encomp	30	...	1.2	4.8
541	305	Eurotherm	398	+ 1	2.9	15.5
875	483	Exeng Group†	510	- 4	1.8	18.5
495	201	Filtronic Comm	460	+ ½	0.3	72.2
32	12	Forward Tech	13	...	2.4	...
417	327	GEC	385	+ 3	4.2	21.5
210	129	Gandy	200	...	2.3	17.5
148	52	Ind Control†	55	...	4.5	8.1
28	12	Jeltex	13	...	5.3	8.3
115	63	Kode	63	- 1	3.7	7.0
65	37	LPA Ind	55	+ 1	4.7	15.6
338	198	Marconi-Sr	199	- 3	4.1	9.5
38	11	Magnetfax	13	- ½	8.4	...
425	425	Nell	425	...	...	...
242	128	Network Tech	143	...	0.9	...
458	302	Oxford Inst	398	...	2.4	12.8
237	41	Pace Micro†	56	+ ½	6.0	10.0
88	29	Pedl†	76	...	4.4	24.0
5400	2325	Philips Lnn nv	4700	+ 300	1.0	...
185	142	Plessey	155	+ 1½	5.2	9.2
238	38	Pleasure	44	...	4.2	4.3
389	209	Prosum	278	- 1½	2.0	...
48	31	Pendwick	34	...	3.8	...
512	276	Psion	455	+ 1	0.0	37.6
301	208	Racal Elect	219	+ 1	3.4	26.4
135	99	Redstone†	108	...	3.7	18.2
380	258	Renishaw†	352	...	3.1	21.2
3	1	Rodime	1	...	...	...
221	149	Roxburgh	204	...	4.2	12.7
234	165	SDL Int. Sys	230	- ½	1.2	20.1
411	302	Sensorex	306	...	3.5	17.4
63	52	Shearwater	59	- 1½	3.1	15.8
5660	3571	TDK	5550	+ 571	0.4	...
108	63	TEI	84	...	6.8	8.8
125	91	TLG	111	+ 2½	4.8	13.9
34	7	Tadpole Tech	8	- ½	...	...
82	49	Telemedia	69	+ ½	2.8	29.6
307	175	Teleprint	197	...	...	...
172	125	Thorpe (FW)	168	+ 6½	3.4	10.8
77	37	Tool Systems	74	...	2.1	27.0
287	78	Torotrak	95	...	6.7	6.6
79	26	Vertex†	72	+ ½	0.2	...
165	85	Vernon	100	...	7.2	7.9
58	37	Vigilon Technology	50	...	...	...
550	400	Vitec	547	- 2½	4.8	16.0
15	10	Wakebourne	10	...	...	...

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Vol %	P/E
492	327	Ambergate†	380	...	1.7	18.5
328	222	Acrol Hldgs†	278	...	2.3	12.2
917	575	Bales Hldg	801	...	3.4	15.2
289	180	BTR	212	- 4	5.2	7.4
624	482	BBA†	535	+ 1½	6.0	13.3
82	41	Bristol Inv	46	...	10.3	7.5
264	192	Cookson†	205	- 3	4.2	14.8
229	197	Cosalt	215	...	3.1	14.7
415	255	DCC	387	+ 2½	2.2	14.8
330	243	Gallaher	297	...	6.4	9.0
140	101	Hanson Dublin†	129	...	8.7	14.1
687	526	Hanson Ordinary	606	+ 3	5.3	13.7
439	381	Imperial Tob	399	...	6.8	7.3
324	229	Jardine Matth†	411	+ ½	3.5	16.2
159	67	Lonrho	102	+ 2	3.6	14.7
175	141	McInnes† Russel	171	...	5.0	13.7
458	388	Meyer Int Dstbuy	427	...	7.5	12.8
197	141	Smiths	159	+ 7	7.4	13.8
384	31	Megaflex	13	- ½	8.4	...
425	425	Nell	425	...	...	...
242	128	Network Tech	143	...	0.9	...
458	302	Oxford Inst	398	...	2.4	12.8
237	41	Pace Micro†	56	+ ½	6.0	10.0
88	29	Pedl†	76	...	4.4	24.0
5400	2325	Philips Lnn nv	4700	+ 300	1.0	...
185	142	Plessey	155	+ 1½

هكذا من الاصل

NEW MOVIES: Geoff Brown admires the way John Travolta and Nicolas Cage make the most of the risible *Face/Off*

An identity parade of the skin-deep

Nicolas Cage — or is it John Travolta? — and John Travolta — or is it Nicolas Cage? — get the drop on each other in John Woo's *Face/Off*

They're bringing in their top surgical team from DC, John Travolta is told by his wife, Joan Allen. "You're going to be OK." This is what you might call magic wand dialogue: with one wave of the tongue, the film wriggles free of an impossible situation.

Consider the facts. Travolta's FBI agent has been surgically altered to resemble his terrorist nemesis, Nicolas Cage. Not to be outdone, Cage has borrowed Travolta's discarded face and used his own new identity to slip into Travolta's shoes, office and bed sheets. Think of the scars Travolta has sustained, both physical and psychological, even before his real identity is restored. And this man is going to be OK?

Face/Off relies extensively on the magic wand to see itself through its preposterous plot. But we must take into account some other magic. There is the director John Woo, the Hong Kong god of action cinema, making his most extravagant use yet of the Hollywood dream machine. And there are the stars, Travolta and Cage, who pounce on their double roles with glee, and give a quirky human dimension to what otherwise would be a stifling ballet of gunshots, fireballs, shattering glass, exploding planes and boats.

The script's notions are well-worn. Numerous criminals have enjoyed new faces in murky B-movies and A-grade fare such as the Bogart vehicle *Dark Passage*. But no film has ever built such colossal hokum out of the plastic surgery business. And no FBI agent has gone so far undercover as Travolta's Sean Archer, consumed with vengeance since Cage's terrorist, one Castor Troy, killed Archer's son on a carousel ride. An extreme situation provokes the FBI's surgical trick: Travolta needs to winkle out the date and place of Troy's next bomb from his brother (called Pollux, of course), who is imprisoned in a top-secret facility.

So out come the knife, the laser shears, the abdominal implant, the voice-altering microchip; and Castor Troy is reborn. All goes well with the deception until the real Troy spies Travolta's facial skin floating gently in a saline solution and forces the surgeon to kit him up as Archer Mark II, arrogant and lustful.

At first the film's cheeky strut is enjoyable. But there are limits. Halfway through, the story gets stuck. For all the heavy use of emotional triggers — wives, lovers, fragile children — it is hard to feel tuppence for the characters' absurd predicament. And Woo, for all his ingenuity, overplays his hand, piling one climax on top of another, cluttering scenes with Crucifix poses, fluttering white doves, and 100 explosions too many.

Anyone still left with an appetite for carnage is welcome to try **Maximum Risk**, which marks the Hollywood debut of another Hong Kong action director, Ringo Lam. Flying bodies, leaping flames, careening cars: we seem to have been here before. The star, too, is nothing new, for Jean-Claude Van Damme's dramatic range remains millimetres wide. The villains equally come from stock: corrupt FBI agents, remnants of the Russian Mafia.

Van Damme gets thrust among them by a plot device not a million miles removed from that of *Face/Off*. A French cop, he finds himself staring in Nice at the corpse of a twin brother he never knew he had. So off he trots to New York's underworld to impersonate his other self and understand his life. But Lam leaves even less time than Woo for contemplating dramatic niceties. The mayhem is staged with authority, but we miss Woo's individual kinks. This is routine fodder for the multiplexes.

Art houses have their fodder too, and with the increasing flow of European money into co-productions we are beginning to spot the tell-tale signs. A worthy subject will be chosen: a literary classic, or some anguish involving the Second World War. The production will be based in Eastern Europe, but all the actors will try to speak English. Good talent is used; but everyone will seem to be working below their best. The film, above all, will appear misbegotten, artificial, starved of life and truth.

Superficially, **The Gambler** fits this template only too well. Dostoevsky is the distinguished source: the film not only adapts the title novel, but wraps around it the story of the book's composition. The director is a veteran Hungarian, Károly Makk. British actors, led by Michael Gambon, potter round the Hungarian sets, pretending to be Russian.

But appearances mislead. Gambon, for one, is ideally cast as the wayward author, as prone to gambling as his book's characters. Jodhi May invests Anna — stenographer, helpmeet and Dostoevsky's future wife — with a grave beauty. And there is a formidable appearance by Luise Rainer, scarcely seen since her Hollywood career sputtered to a close in 1943 (*see interview, opposite*). She plays the novel's Grandmother, an imperious moneybags dazzled by the roulette wheel.

The film looks striking, too, as it shuttles between the gloom of Dostoevsky's St Petersburg flat and the bright lights of a German spa town. For a Europudding, *The Gambler* is surprisingly tasty.

My Mother's Courage proves less nourishing. The story is true. The time and place is Nazi-occupied Budapest, 1944. The director is German (Michael Verhoeven), the language English. The mother of the Hungarian writer George Tabori (the on-screen narrator) faces shipment to a death camp. But good fortune, cunning and cheerfulness intervene. As the lucky lady, Pauline Collins chirps away like a tree full of sparrows, but she cannot help the film feel anything but slight and winsome.

In **Up on the Roof**, at least British actors get to act British. Director Simon Moore invites us to dart through three decades of music, friendship and love with a vocal group who meet at university. The film lopes along, lightly carrying its burden of soap opera, sociology and pop songs, while never generating enough wit, charm or conviction to make it essential viewing.

A national identity emerges more strongly in **Will it Snow for Christmas?**, a tale of drudgery and maternal love on a farm in rural France. This first film from a new director, Sandrine Veysset, brings a fresh breeze into contemporary French cinema, usually so preoccupied with young Parisians navel-gazing and falling in love. Forget all that: the business here is harvesting onions, trimming leeks, caring for seven illegitimate children, and dodging the fierce gaze of their father, who owns the farm but lives elsewhere.

Dominique Reymond impresses as the earth mother trying to soften the family's fate, but the film's narrow focus and unvarnished visuals make for uphill viewing.

Face/Off
Odeon Leicester Square
18, 138 mins
Travolta and Cage swap identities

Maximum Risk
Virgin Trocadero
18, 100 mins
Routine carnage with Van Damme

The Gambler
Curzon West End
15, 97 mins
Michael Gambon as Dostoevsky

My Mother's Courage
ABC Panton Street
12, 92 mins
Pauline Collins as a Hungarian Jew

Up on the Roof
Plaza, 15, 101 mins
Ups, downs and yawns of a student singing group

Will it Snow for Christmas?
Renoir, 12, 90 mins
Love and drudgery in rural France

'Silly, violent'

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

☐ *FACE/OFF*
Jethro Aukin, 18: A sickeningly high body count.
Dom Young, 19: The action just doesn't stop.
Sharada Osman, 19: A silly, violent movie.
Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 19: Good acting would be better placed in a subtler movie.

☐ *MAXIMUM RISK*
Jethro: Needed more attention to the script.
Dom: Lacks the humour normally associated with Jean Claude Van Damme movies.
Sharada: Van Damme was gorgeous.
Leslie: A strong contender for the worst movie of the year.

☐ *THE GAMBLER*
Jethro: Great performances from Michael Gambon and Jodhi May.
Dom: The novel's sense of passion is sadly missing.
Sharada: Fine acting from the under-used Polly Walker.
Leslie: Sticks too close to its literary source.

In at the birth of a notion

This year's silent film festival at Pordenone rolled out the red carpet for the great D.W. Griffith

A man called W.K.L. Dickson stands before us. Handlebar moustache, waistcoat, collar and tie: a late-Victorian kind of gent. The raised hat comes to rest on his outstretched left hand. Photographed around 1891 at the Edison laboratory in West Orange, New Jersey, where he led experiments in making pictures move, he is greeting unseen spectators. His audience in this case consists of scholars, archivists and collectors gathered over a century later for the latest *Giornate del Cinema Muto*, Pordenone's silent film festival.

Watching some of the earliest surviving film is a strange and wonderful experience. We forget *Star Wars* and *Alien*. We forget films can talk, or even tell complicated stories. We are back to square one, with a few short strips of celluloid catching famous persons of the late 19th century, trains arriving, ships leaving, comic pranks with hoses and poles. It is like visiting the Garden of Eden.

This year's edition, the first under the directorship of this newspaper's former film critic, David Robinson, deluged the viewer with arcane celluloid. All the Library of Congress's holdings of motion pictures made by Edison's company between 1890 and 1900 were presented in chronological order (Dickson raising his hat was the first).

We dipped into the treasures of the Will Day collection, beautifully restored in Paris by the National Cinema Centre's Film Archives. We went up to Blackburn, in Lancashire, to sample the output of the Mitchell and Kenyon company: farces and actualities with a bracing Northern bite. We went to China, too, for some rediscovered features (typical title: *Peach Blossom Weeps Tears of Blood*).

All well and good, but even film scholars need a good night out. The principal focus of this year's event was supposed to fall on D.W. Griffith, titan of cinema, whose complete silent oeuvre Pordenone plans to reassess. He certainly began things with a bang: when you show *The Birth of a Nation* on the big screen, with the Ljubljana Camerata Labacensis orchestra thundering through John Lanchbery's arrangement of the original score, you must expect all kinds of fireworks.

Not even an Oliver Stone movie can stir as much controversy as Griffith's Civil War epic of 1915. Half of you sits agog with wonder at the spectacle and technical skill. The other half squirms, horrified by the worshipful treatment of the Ku Klux Klan.

From there we backtracked to Griffith's output of 1908, screened mostly in a side room, watched by a devoted band, notebooks and torches at the ready. Not that the films were dull: the problem lay with the prints. Surviving copies of many early American films have come down to us only in "paper prints": rolls of images submitted for copyright purposes to the Library of Congress, printed on to paper. Beginning in the 1940s, the rolls were photographed, thus transferring the images back to celluloid, although often in mangled form. The image is fuzzy, scenes are sometimes out of order, all titles are missing.

Even so, cinema's time travelling machine worked some of its magic. Griffith's first films plunge us into a bizarre and harsh world where topical concerns of the 1900s merge with popular melodrama. Gypsies, kidnappers and burglars roam the streets, causing weak women to quake and strong men to come out fighting. Some films, such as *The Maniac Cook*, seemed a long way from Griffith's maturity: others showed the director making quick strides in developing cinema's grammar.

Aside from Griffith, Pordenone dipped its toes in the uncharted waters of British silent cinema. The man they fished out was Maurice Elvey, a director who might be regarded with more respect had he not made 150 features and a heap of shorts. He was too prolific, too uneven.

The one Elvey film everybody liked was his 1927 version of *Hindle Wakes*, a stage perennial of Lancashire life, filmed with tenderness, wit, and a splendid use of locations. *The Story of David Lloyd George* (1918), recently rescued from oblivion, displayed an epic sweep.

If not every film at Pordenone gave pleasure, the festival awards certainly did. Well-established archives were ignored; the Jean Mitry Prize was shared between Lobster Films of Paris, a small, enthusiastic restoration company, and Britain's John and William Barnes, loving collectors and documentors of early cinema.

GEOFF BROWN

Once a star, again a star

Donald Hutera meets the double Oscar winner Luise Rainer, back in films after 50 years

SIMON WALKER

Half a century after her last screen appearance, Luise Rainer is now in *The Gambler*. "I still get fan mail," she says

Sixty years ago, a big-eyed, fragile-looking young actress named Luise Rainer earned a place in Hollywood history by becoming the first performer to win an Oscar two years in a row. For a brief time Rainer shone as brightly as Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford or Norma Shearer. In fact, she shared a suite of de luxe dressing rooms with those formidable ladies on MGM's studio lot. "We were just working girls," Rainer says. "We did our duties, and that's it."

Despite her double-Oscar coup, Rainer made too few movies to attain the status of cinema legend. Her spectacularly short-lived career — eight films for MGM from 1936 to 1938, plus a final stinker for Paramount in the early 1940s — was basically over before she turned 30. Today, even film buffs can be forgiven for asking: "Luise Rainer — is she still alive?"

The answer is an emphatic yes. Now pushing 90, and after half a century off the big screen, Rainer has scored what is very likely a record in movie-star comebacks. She has a small but pivotal role in *The Gambler*, a new film based on Dostoevsky's work (*see Geoff Brown's review, opposite*). Shot in Budapest, this period piece features Rainer as a cunning family matriarch, enthroned in a wheelchair with a jaunty feathered hat perched above a withered yet extraordinarily expressive face.

She seizes the screen from her first entrance. Looking radiant one moment, bereft the next, her avidity at the gaming table keeps the film's dramatic engine from idling. She is so feverishly animated that you cannot take your eyes off her.

Rainer now lives in London, in an Eaton Square building adorned with a blue plaque in honour of Vivien Leigh, another two-time — though not consecutive — Oscar-winner. Interviewing Rainer is akin to a royal audience. Her manner is gracious, occasionally haughty, always passionate. The day we meet she is struggling with a fit of pique. The producers have sent out invitations for a screening and Rainer's name, at the bottom of the cast list, is in smaller print than the others.

"I'm furious," she says. "I've been living in the background, and that's been fine with me because that's my life; I am a little fly like everybody else. But I still have a name. I'm supposed to be a very good actress. And now when I do something — and for charity money — and I give interviews and help them a great deal . . . I find this invitation an insult."

Despite her tirade, she is not a Norma Desmond, spiderishly feeding off memories of lost glory. "Past to me is past," she declaims.

Born into a well-to-do German family — "in 1910 or 1912, it's so long ago" — she began working with the celebrated Max Reinhardt when still a teenager. What Rainer calls her "glamourpuss time" began after a talent scout spotted her onstage in Vienna. After a screen test the next day she accepted an MGM contract.

In California, Rainer was not immediately inundated with scripts. She grew "brown as a nut" walking her dog along the beach. On one of these jaunts, the writer Anita Loos gave her a tip: Myrna Loy's part opposite William Powell in *Escapade* was up for grabs. Rainer landed the role and, thanks to Powell's help, star treatment. It was her first film.

Her next, *The Great Ziegfeld* (1936), brought her first Oscar. Playing the coquettish stage star Anna Held, Rainer was human champagne. Today, this lavish, often tedious musical biography is chiefly remembered for her classic four-hanky telephone scene when Held congratulates her former husband on his new marriage. Rainer wrote the scene herself.

Next, against objections from studio boss Louis B. Mayer, Irving Thalberg cast Rainer as a virtually speechless Chinese peasant in his costly adaptation of Pearl S. Buck's epic novel, *The Good Earth*. Stoic and persevering this time rather than teary and effervescent, she moved the Academy Award voters yet again. It is a double that few have duplicated — Tom Hanks, recently, Spencer Tracy in 1937 and 1938, Katharine Hepburn in the 1960s — but Rainer set the precedent.

At the height of her fame, Rainer's marriage to the left-wing playwright Clifford Odets began to collapse. Their attraction had been instantaneous and overwhelming, but their union — seemingly done in by jealousy, rivalry and conflicting schedules — lasted barely three years.

Rainer remembers her Hollywood years as a mixed blessing. For her, Tinseltown's golden age was a privileged, pampered prison with Mayer her warden. Other MGM players have eulogised him as a father figure, but Rainer describes him as "a bad stepmother". Foisted off with dire scripts, maltreated by Mayer, trying to cope with her marital break-up, Rainer simply withdrew. "I was in pieces, terribly unhappy and destroyed. I always loved with all my existence. I can't call myself a little naive, but I didn't expect that anything would ever go wrong."

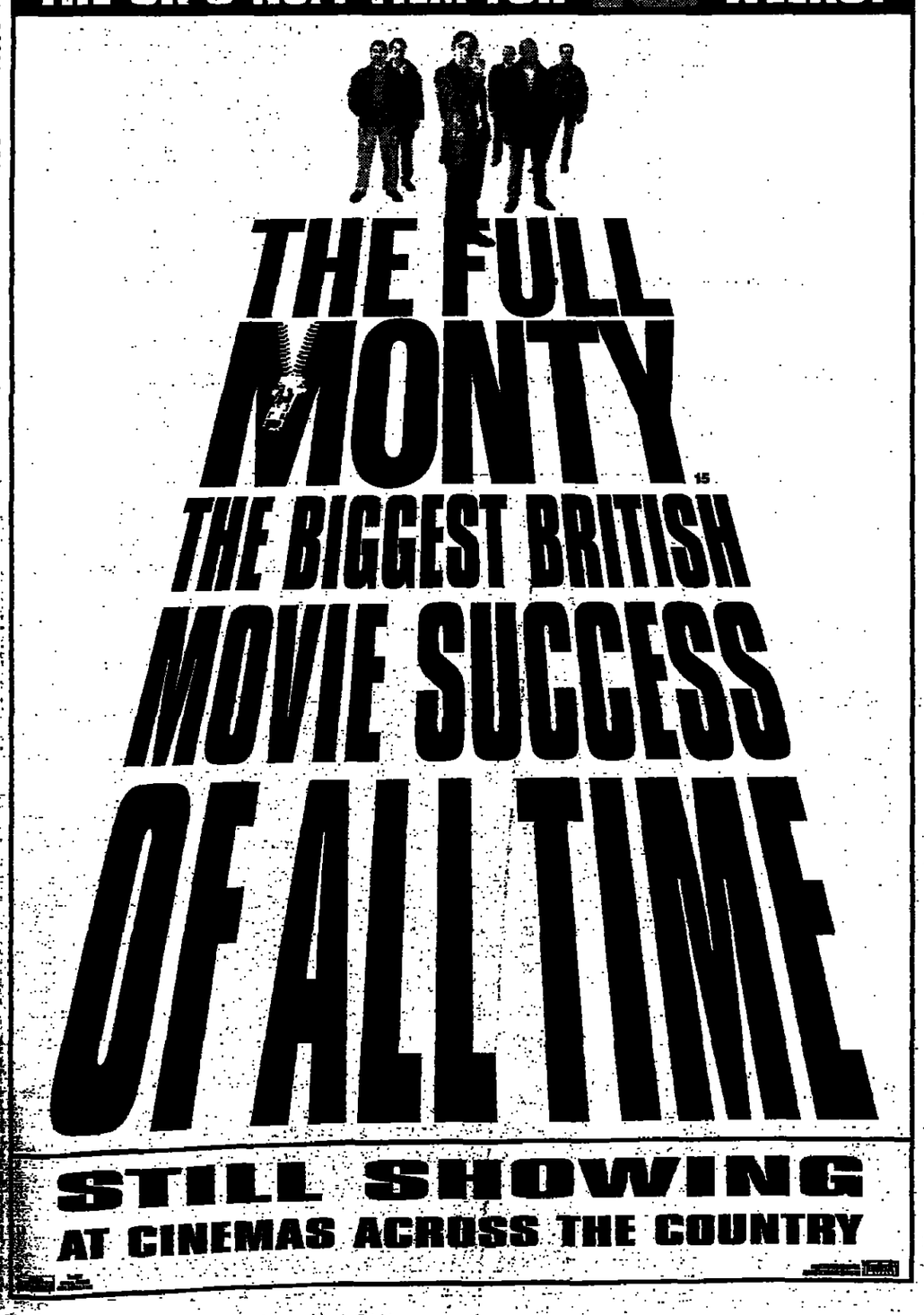
After a trip to Europe, she returned to Hollywood. Following an abortive attempt to play Marie Curie (Greer Garson got the part), she lost the female lead in *For Whom the Bell Tolls* to Ingrid Bergman. "She was wonderful," Rainer says. "Of course I think I also would have been very good. But very different, probably." Later might-have-beens included *La Dolce Vita* — only she refused to go to bed on-screen with Marcello Mastroianni.

Rainer's last Hollywood picture was the 1943 propaganda film *Hostages*. She moved to New York, did some theatre (turning down Tennessee Williams's invitation to appear in *The Glass Menagerie*) and married Robert Knittel, an Englishman who later became a director at Collins Publishing. They had one child. The family lived in England and later Switzerland.

She moved back to London in 1989, after Knittel's death. Nowadays, she attends concerts, exhibitions, films, theatre, the ballet and keeps up with correspondence. "I still get fan mail." She may refer to her Hollywood heyday as "once upon a time", but does not deny its power. "To have been able to reach so many human beings!"

As for her Oscars, perched on a shelf, one is tarnished and slightly shorter than the other. The taller, shiny one is a replacement. The original just crumbled one day. "Yeah," Rainer offers, her mouth split in a sardonic grin. "It got battle fatigue."

THE UK'S No.1 FILM FOR WEEKS!



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– Chrstopher Tookey, DAILY MAIL

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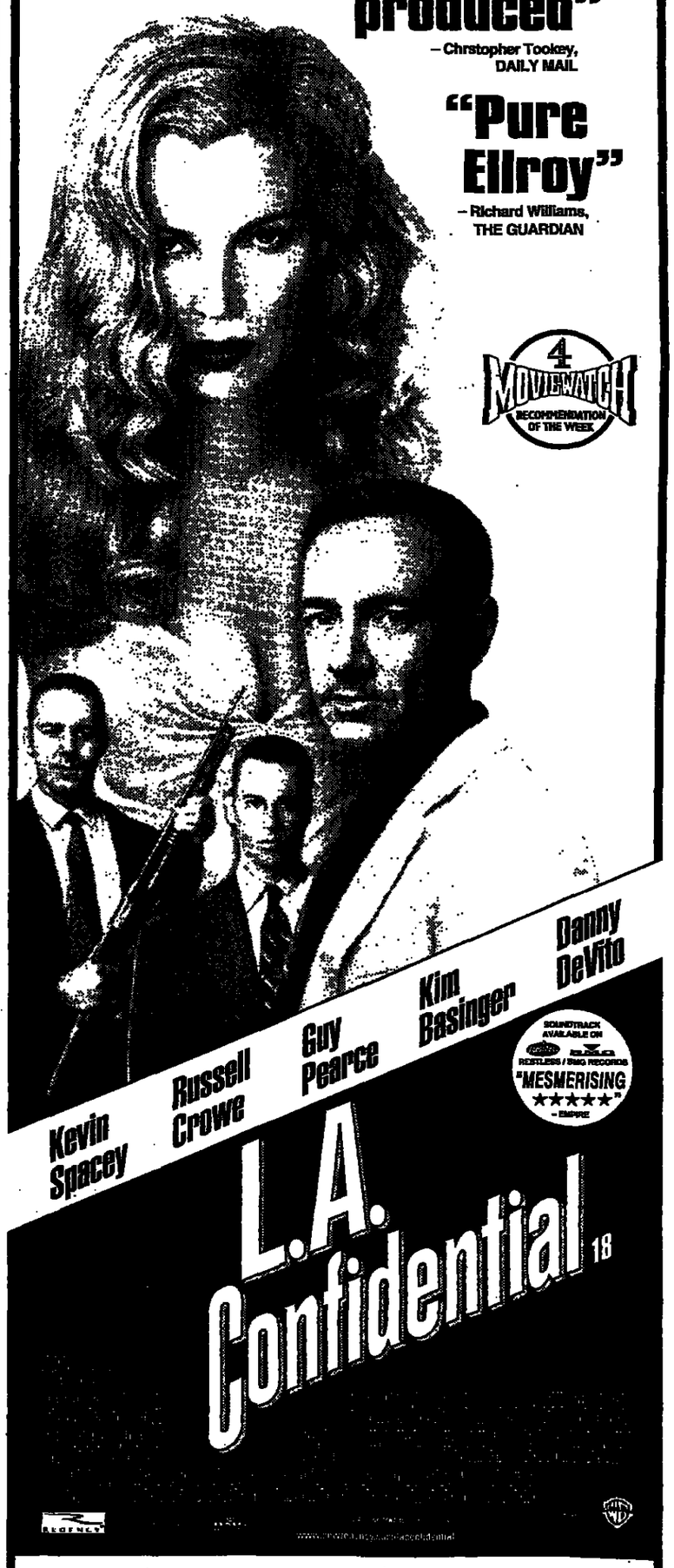
– Richard Williams, THE GUARDIAN



NOW SHOWING AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

هكذا من الاصل

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LONDON

CLOCKS AND CLOUDS: Launch of the second part of the International retrospective of music by the contemporary composer György Ligeti Esa-Pekka Salonen conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra in a programme which also features works by Bartok and Scriabin. With Masuko Uchida, piano
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm

HENRY V: Michael Sheen plays the warlike Harry in Ron Daniels's production, not well reviewed in Stratford, perhaps in better shape after its tour. Good performance by Karine Adrover as Katherine
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Thur and Sat, 2pm. Until Nov 22, after which in rep

MIGHT OF MAHLER: The American conductor Michael Tilson Thomas, a seasoned interpreter of Mahler's music, leads the London Symphony Orchestra through the vast landscapes of the Viennese composer's complex and haunting Seventh Symphony
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm

WIGMORE GALA: The first-ever fundraising event here is aimed at providing money for a range of future developments at the Hall. Heading the evening's sublime line-up are Anne Evans, Ann Murray and Olaf Bär, performing an equally exquisite programme featuring music by Wagner, Schumann and Rachmaninov
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: A musical rarity is on offer from the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** tonight as Lawrence Foster conducts Franz Xaver Scharwenka's Piano Concerto No 4, framed by Rossini's *William Tell Overture* and Schumann's Symphony No 4. With Stephen Hough, piano.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm.

BRISTOL: Premiere of **The Man With Green Hair**, Nick Darke's comedy based on real events surrounding the chemical contamination of Cornish drinking water a few years back. Andy Hay, directs a cast of eight.
Old Vic, King Street (0117 987 7877). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Wed, 7.30pm; Thur-Sat, 8pm; mats Thur and Sat, 2.30pm. Until Nov 29.

LEEDS: European premiere of Cheryl L. West's award-winning **Jar the Floor** centering on four generations of African-American women from one family. Topher Campbell directs.
West Yorkshire Playhouse, The Quarry, Hill Mount (0113-244 2111). Previews from tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Nov 11, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 3pm.

MANCHESTER: Susan Wooldridge *plays the desperate Hester in* **The Deep Blue Sea**, Rattigan's drama of a terribly respectable married woman who falls hopelessly in love with an ex-pilot. Marianne Elliott directs.
Royal Exchange at Upper Campfield Market (0161-833 9833). Previews from tonight, 7.30pm. Opens Nov 11, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Until Dec 13.

OXFORD: As part of the city's festival of contemporary music the BBC Radio 3's new music programme *Hear and Now* comes to town with a concert celebrating the 65th birthday of the distinguished English composer Hugh Wood. **The Birmingham Contemporary Music Group** under *Stefan Asbury performs a selection of* Wood's works including the first performance of a new version of the Horn Trio
Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street (01865 798600). Tonight, 8pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: James Ensor (0171-638 8891) **Hayward**: Objects of Desire (0171-928 3144) **Museum of London**: Bedlam: Custody, care and cure (0171-600 0807) . . . **National**: Hogarth's Marriage A-la-Mode (0171-747 2885) . **National Portrait**: Sir Henry Raeburn (0171-306 0055) . **Royal College of Art**: Artists and Anatomy (0171-590 4444)

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

Baritone Olaf Bär sings at the Wigmore Hall

☐ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**: Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alenan Brighten and Alasdair Harvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm

■ **ELECTRA**: Zoe Wanamaker a powerful and poignant heroine in David Leveaux's production from Chichester. Marjorie Yates plays Clytemnestra.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Tue and Sat, 4pm. Until December 5

◪ **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE**: Ian McKellen plays the spa doctor pitting himself against the community in Trevor Nunn's highly detailed production. Admirable cast.
National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.15; mat Sat, 2pm. In rep

☐ **THE GOOD WOMAN OF SHARKVILLE**: Janet Suzman's production of Brecht's play, originally set in Setzuan but ingenuously transposed to South Africa. Great performances by the Market Theatre of Johannesburg of what now seems a very sexist piece
Hackney Empire, Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **HURLYBURLY**: West End transfer for the first hit from Peter Hall's Old Vic company. David Rabe's savagely funny play about Californian men behaving very badly indeed. Wilson Milam directs an excellent cast led by Rupert Graves, Jenny Seagrove, Andy Serkis and David Tennant
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5105). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm

☐ **KAT AND THE KINGS**: Exuberant musical set in Cape Town as rock'n'roll bursts over South Africa. A great evening out
Tricycle Theatre, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Nov 5), 2pm and Sat, 4pm. Until Nov 8

☐ **THE MILK TRAIN DOESN'T STOP HERE ANYMORE**: Rupert Everett drags up to play the rich and dying Flora Goforth, in part a Tennessee Williams self-portrait. Philip Prowse's intriguing production, often highly entertaining
Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until November 29

■ **ROMEO AND JULIET**: Ray Fearon and Zoe Wakes play the kids in love. Short London run for Michael Attenborough's production before transferring to Stratford.
Barbican (The Pit), Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Thur and Sat, 2pm. Until November 15

◪ **SCISSOR HAPPY**: Comedy whodunnit where the audience can play detective. Adapted by Neil Mullarkey, Lee Simpson and Jim Sweeney from the US long-runner *Sheer Madness*
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075). Mon-Fri, 8pm. Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm. mat Wed, 2.30pm

■ **THE SLOW DRAG**: Jazz musical by Carson Kreitzer, loosely based on the story of Billy Tipton, a woman who passed as a man to find work as a jazz musician. With Liza Sadovy, Kim Criswell and Christopher Colquhoun
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, London SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Thur, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 7pm and 9.30pm

☐ **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**: Powerful playing by Desmond Barrit as Arthur Miller's longshoreman destroyed by incestuous feelings for his niece.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until November 29

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . ◪ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . . . ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) . . ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) . . ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . ◪ **The Mousetrap**: *St Martin's* (0171-836 1443) . . . ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . ☐ **Smokey Joe's Cafe**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987) ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

NEW RELEASES

◆ **AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS** (15): Amusingly cheeky horror comic, with Tom Everett Scott as an American student who falls for the charms of Julie Delpy's werewolf. Director, Anthony Waller
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** ◪ (0181-970 6015) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

FOOLS RUSH IN (12): Strait-laced guy can't cope with marriage to a fiery Mexican-American. Tresorme romantic comedy with Matthew Perry and Salma Hayek. Director, Andy Tennant.
Virgin Trocadero ◪ (0181-970 6015)

◆ **L.A. CONFIDENTIAL** (18): Smashing drama about corruption in LA in the early 1950s, with Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Kim Basinger, Guy Pearce and Danny DeVito. Director, Curtis Hanson
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

SMALLTIME (18): Exuberant comic tale of Nottingham low-lifes, from a promising new talent. Shane Meadows
ICA ◪ (0171-930 3647)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW (15): Danish scientist of Greenlandic descent sniffs out a murder mystery. Mishandled treatment of interesting material. With Julia Ormond, Gabriel Byrne, Richard Harris. Director, Bille August.
ABC Shaftesbury Av (0171-836 6279)

CURRENT

◆ **A LIFE LESS ORDINARY** (15): Janitor and American heiress finally fall in love. Odd mix of comedy, fantasy and romance from the *Transpotting* team. Director, Danny Boyle
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

MA VIE EN ROSE (12): Exuberant, generous and stylish French comedy about a seven year-old boy's determination to be a girl.
ABC Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **SHOOTING FISH** (12): Sprawling British comedy about young adventurers running scams. Not as good as it thinks it is. With Stuart Townsend, Dan Futterman, Kate Beckinsale
Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

TEMPTRESS MOON (15): Gigolo is obsessed with the daughter of a decaying household. Lusciously visualised period melodrama by director Chen Kaige
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **VOLCANO** (12): Lava and cliches swamp Los Angeles. A disaster movie that should be more fun than it is. With Tommy Lee Jones and Anne Heche
Odeon West End (0181-315 4221)

WILDE (15): Stephen Fry as Oscar Wilde: fine and touching, though the film is more timid than you might expect. Conventional direction by Brian Gilbert
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

Change of gear left late

ANDY PHILLIPS/LONDON FEATURES

Lisa Stansfield's Wembley performance was a game of two halves, with most of the big hits arriving close to extra time

Fashion played a big part in the London leg of Lisa Stansfield's UK tour. Support act David McAlmont had toned down his stagewear to suit the conservative crowd. Rather than the full-length robes and chunky gold chains he usually sports, McAlmont literally shone in a dazzling white outfit of jeans and corduroy shirt, his only concession to glamour a fist full of huge diamanté rings.

Lisa Stansfield / Wembley Arena

Dressed down, however, McAlmont looked ill-at-ease. A lukewarm reception to even his old hits with Bernard Butler didn't help. Only when he segued one of his own songs into his soaring cover of *Diamonds are Forever* could the audience glimpse his soul diva side. At the end of the set, it took a guitarist clapping his hands above his head to coax a ripple of applause from the half-empty auditorium.

Lisa Stansfield, by contrast, could do no wrong from the second she strode on to the tastefully decorated stage. "This isn't a concert, it's a party," she announced, after opening with a slow song from her current, eponymously titled album. "Get up if you want to dance."

Instantly, fans aged eight to 80 were on their feet as she launched into a couple of mid-tempo funk tunes, including her last single, *The Line*, a commercial failure that nevertheless received a rapturous response. But Stansfield looked almost as uncomfortable as McAlmont. Wearing a slightly too tight trouser suit and with lashings of glitter on her cheeks, Stansfield spent the first 50 minutes of her set switching slickly between Disney soundtrack-style ballads and slightly faster-paced, R&B-infused pop songs. It was a professional, polished performance that lacked any sense of soul. Even the sassy singalong favourite *Soul Deep* felt coldly controlled.

A calypso-flavoured instrumental break before the final part of the show broke the ice, however. Stansfield seemed to have changed her mood along with her suit. Clad now in shimmering black, she loosened up and smiled. A string of hits such as *The Real Thing*, *Change* and *Live Together* saw her interact with the eight-piece band for the first time. She boogied with the bassist, purred in the direction of her partner, guitarist Ian Devaney, and threw her arms in the air in time with the two backing singers.

Oddly, a first encore ended with the former No 1 hit *All Around the World*, which could have slipped seamlessly into the set a lot earlier. Stranger still, the final encore was *People Hold On*, an even older club collaboration with Coldcut. Clearly, Stansfield would like to recapture her glory days. Perhaps she shouldn't try so hard.

LISA VERRICO

OPERA: A dire American double-bill depresses; a touring Gershwin production exhilarates

Jigsaw massacre

I Can't Stand Wagner / The Music Shop — Bloomsbury

THERE are occasions when, as a sane member of the human race, you wonder whether you are actually sitting in a theatre in the here and now or experiencing a hallucination, and this double bill was definitely one of them. Among Jigsaw Music Theatre's stated aims are to attract new audiences and revitalise music drama, although what Tuesday's offering was supposed to have to do with life, art or indeed audiences under 70 as we stagger through the final years of the 20th century I cannot begin to imagine.

Two American one-acters were given — isn't there enough bad home-grown music theatre without their having to go searching across the pond? — and the rubric "by arrangement with G. Schirmer Ltd" gave rise to mischievous speculation as to the precise nature of the "arrangement". No one in their right mind could have lighted upon these trifles and thought "gosh, we simply *have* to stage them". *I Can't Stand Wagner* by Seymour Barab (b. 1921) has a catchy title and nothing else. *The Music Shop*, by Richard Wargo (b. 1957), is based on a Chekhov playlet. Both are anecdotal sketches, far too wordy to need or indeed sustain any kind of music save for the referential. The Barab is Bernstein-and-water (non-sparkling), the Wargo marginally more substantial but insufferably rogueish and relying for laughs on quotations. Both, at around 40 minutes, are mercifully short.

To describe the level of humour in Sarah Jennings's productions as "undergraduate" would be an unpardonable slur on all students past and present; "embarrassingly juvenile" will have to do. The chamber orchestra played willingly enough for Bruce O'Neil. There were two talented young singers involved, the tenor Henry Moss and the soprano Helen Greenaway — both have real voices and know their way about a stage, and I hope they get some proper work elsewhere.

The most depressing aspect of the evening was another programme rubric, "Funded by the Arts Council of England". Whoever assessed this company and recommended a grant should be told politely but firmly that they are in the wrong job. To have to sit through this tosh on the day that the whole structure of opera in London was coming under threat was intolerable.

RODNEY MILNES

Plenty of somethin'

Porgy and Bess / Coliseum

AS GERSHWIN'S opera closes with Porgy bidding farewell to the residents of Catfish Row, no one knowing how long his journey will take, you feel you can really believe these performers. This show has been on the road since 1993, and plans for the American production's world tour extend well into the Gershwin centenary next year. Croydon, on a cold and wet evening, cannot have been one of the tour's most exciting stopovers, but the performance lacked nothing in dedication.

Indeed, the freshness and honesty of this *Porgy and Bess* was amazing. There may have been no outstanding voices in Tuesday's cast — many roles are doubled — but all were of a good standard and made a well-integrated ensemble. Even the somewhat erratic lighting and the surely unnecessary amplification did not dilute the power of this masterpiece — a work that, in spite of its famous numbers, is seldom presented complete. Here it is almost complete, and the cuts are of a practical nature.

The show is playing in towns mostly neglected by our opera companies. Still to come this month are Sunderland, Bournemouth, Eastbourne, Belfast and Southend.

Because of the Fairfield Concert Hall's cramped platform, this was apparently the semi-staged version, and James Fouchard's design for Catfish Row stayed in place throughout. It left only a shallow acting area for the company, but Elizabeth Graham's direction in Will Roberson's original production kept the action fluid, while still evoking the teeming life of this community.

As well as directing, Graham is one of the Besses. Her voice is best at the top but her slightly unfocused lower notes were less worrying than her cardboard characterisation: although brazen enough, she missed the other emotions of this mixed-up woman. Brian Gibson was a big-hearted Porgy with an imposing, if sometimes woolly, voice. Ronn K. Smith was a fine Sporting Life, and never descended into caricatures. Perhaps the most musical singing came from Angela Owens's Clara in a beautifully judged *Summertime*. Stephen Finch (Crown), Anne Fridal (Serena), Kim Sylvain (Maria) and Darrell Williams (Jake) were all solid. In charge of an excellent pick-up band, the tour's music director, Stefan Kozinski, made the most of this catchy and complex score.

JOHN ALLISON

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THEATRES

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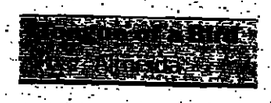
Bold flights of fancy

A 12-year-old girl, on a school trip somewhere in the North American outback, is grabbed by a man, shoved into a pick-up truck, and driven into the snowy mountains beyond. The police eventually give up the search for the kidnapper and his victim, so the child's mother hires an aviatrix called Maxine to continue it. Day after day she flies over chasms and round peaks, musing about the various mysteries afflicting her, until ... but I shall resist the temptation to reveal the denouement of Ellen McLaughlin's bold but uneven play.

That, anyway, is the situation. It is important to keep sight of it, because *Tongue of a Bird* is apt to waft off into the realms of poesy, fantasy, dream, ghost-story and general airy-fairy. It is not a particularly accessible piece, nor an especially tense one,



nor — despite the efforts of Peter Gill's admirable cast — as affecting as it might be. No, the play's main merit is that it persists in taking risks with language and imagery. If I were being nice, I would say that it dares to be undramatic. If I were being nasty, I would say that too.

Images of loss, flight and quest recur, almost ad absurdum. Birds are sometimes mentioned and occasionally heard. There is a witchy great-great-grandmother in Maxine's background who flew about Poland, apparently in formation with other women. Her grandma, Miriam Karlin's Zofia, goes in for a sort of mental time-travel. Her mother, who committed suicide when she was a child, was a madwoman given to running away at night and, so it seems, having out-of-body experiences. If McLaughlin had introduced Maxine's third cousin twice removed, she would have turned out to be a glider pilot with hopes of one day being reincarnated as a butterfly; or so I felt after spending two hours in this self-conscious pile-up of family oddity and winged pain.

Deborah Findlay's Maxine spends some of her time at her plane's controls, at one point with the apparition of the lost child seated beside her, and some of it in bed, often with her dead mother hovering on wires above her, dressed in an airperson's garb. It cannot be easy to sustain emotional discipline and drive under such circumstances, especially when McLaughlin asks her to say things like "there's a hole in me, mamma, big as the sky, it's the hole you made in your passage out of the world". Yet Findlay brings a plausible desperation to Maxine's attempts to understand the parent who rejected her by hanging herself all those years ago.

With even the scene-shifters adding to the calculatedly spooky atmosphere by gliding about the spare furniture in all-white dungarees, one is grateful for his — and even more so for the reality that Melanie Hill brings to the role of Dessa, the mother of the abducted child. That is less of a challenge, since she expresses her grief in no-nonsense English rather than in laments for "the terrible aching vastness, which is your absence from me". But her splendidly blunt, unpretentious acting combines with her old woolly jumper, her pale, round face and bunch of thick brown hair to create a refreshingly truthful impression: of a very ordinary woman coping and failing to cope with unimaginable anguish.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Aviatrix Maxine (Deborah Findlay) takes wing over her grandmother Zofia (Miriam Karlin) in *Tongue of a Bird*

West End variety is live and kicking

An old-fashioned genre is being reborn at London's Vaudeville Theatre. **Benedict Nightingale** reports

Edward Snape, at 31 one of the youngest and brightest of our producers, began his career by running a traditional end-of-the-pier show in Cromer — "you know, onstage offstage, on off, on off, good old variety, one of the last of its kind". Many of the comic acts he presented would not pass muster these days, least of all in a sophisticated West End, but they left him with a love for the immediacy and a respect for the risk of live performance. Television, where the fun is almost always canned, strikes him as no substitute, and the alternative comedy circuit as clubby and peripheral.

Hence the series of seasons, starting on December 9 with Julian Clary's new one-man show, that Snape is to mount at London's aptly named Vaudeville Theatre. Part of the plan is to bring some of the more theatrical "alternative" comics out of their lairs and into a mainstream playhouse; but his aims go beyond this. The Right Size's *Do You Come Here Often?*, a sort of post-Beckett, post-Python farce about two men shut in a bathroom, opens in January, and there is even a possibility of a punk circus eventually joining the jollifications.

"It's a case of variety is dead, long live variety," says Snape. "We're looking for performers and groups who thrive on spontaneity, can relate directly to audiences, especially younger audiences, and have 'it', whatever 'it' is. We're looking for the new, harder-edged comedy of today: people like Clary or David Baddiel or of course Lily Savage, who has a theatrical extravagance and a sense of humour that come from a tough, working-class Liverpool upbringing."

Baddiel and Savage are not yet in the frame, but plenty of others are. Those now considering firm offers to appear in the opening season range from Jenny Eclair to David Benson, creator of a one-man show about Kenneth Williams called *Think No Evil*, and from Alan Davies to the pianist David Helfgott and the veteran mouth-organist Larry Adler, who hope to collaborate on a centenary tribute to Gershwin. The emphasis on youth does not preclude appearances by performers such as Ronnie Corbett and Bob Monkhouse, whom Snape hopes to see playing the Vaudeville on his 70th birthday next year: "He's got a huge following among younger audiences, rather like Frankie Howerd a few years ago."

First in the new line-up: Julian Clary

A key point is that, with the odd exception, shows will last for no more than 80 minutes and will be seen in twice-nightly rep. The Right Size, for instance, will open at 7.15pm and a new piece by Kit and the Widow will follow at 9.15. Another novelty is that tickets will be sold as if they were for seats on a plane. Buy either early or late on standby, and there will be a biggish reduction on the normal top price, which in any case will be a less than daunting £18.

But is this yet another example of dumbing-down in the West End? There might be a case to answer if there were fewer than 42 theatres in the commercial sector and if there were loads of straight yet potentially profitable plays clamouring for a place in the West End sun: but that is not so. Anyway, there were always plenty of revues on offer in the 1940s and 1950s, when Shaftesbury Avenue was where you would have expected to find new work by Priestley, Eliot, Rattigan and Fry. Live at the Vaudeville, as Snape's enterprise will be called, may be seen as a raunchy modern substitute for that half-forgotten genre.

Moreover, each season will run only from the autumn to the spring. Snape's publicity coyly says that "negotiations are under way with a national theatre company to play during the summer months". Translated, that seems to mean that the RSC may use the Vaudeville as a Barbican-substitute for part of the period it is out of London, starting with a revival of Peter Whelan's fine play, *The Herbal Bed*.

By then, the hope is that the Vaudeville will have gained a reputation for up-to-the-minute variety; and not only with the theatregoing public. Why not Sunday night TV shows in which Ardal O'Hanlon, Greg Proops and the other comedians Snape hopes to attract are seen fencing with their audiences?

"But this couldn't be prerecorded," he says. "The excitement and danger of performance is always lost that way. It must be live at the Vaudeville."

● *Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987)*

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: Holliger, Tchaikovsky and the real Nigel Kennedy

INSTRUMENTAL

Hilary Finch

■ **HEINZ HOLLIGER**
Lieder ohne Wörte
Zehetmair/Larcher/Holliger
ECM New Series 1618 457 066-2 ★★★ £15.49

HEINZ HOLLIGER'S fame as the world's greatest oboist does not eclipse his formidable skill as a composer, but we hear his music all too seldom. ECM has championed his works on disc, and its new album of *Songs without Words* focuses on Holliger's penchant for making textless interpretations of poetry.

Two sets of *Lieder ohne Worte* for violin and piano frame this exciting recital. The first group (1981-83) are fugitive, melancholy songs shaped by the finest nuances and shadings. Titles like *Frühlingslied* and *Flammen ... Schnee* focus the expression of the concentrated yet emotionally luxuriant second group (1988-94). The violinist Thomas Zehetmair is ideally cast to bring them to life.

Zehetmair makes Holliger's *Trema* (1981-3) into a terrifying endgame of skin-splitting tremolandi in a shimmering web of sound. The spare harp writing of the *Sequenzen über Johannes I, 32*, played by Ursula Holliger, could not be in greater contrast.

OPERA

John Higgins

■ **THE TCHAIKOVSKY EXPERIENCE**
ROH Orc/Järvi
Conifer/Royal Opera House 75605 55012-2 ★★ £15.49

FAMILIAR and unfamiliar Tchaikovsky rub shoulders in an admirable selection, expertly conducted by Neeme Järvi and played with great warmth by Covent Garden's orchestra. Each of the composer's ten operas is represented, including the early *Undine* which he later destroyed. The young Sarov soprano, Marina Shaguch, and another recent arrival on the operatic scene, Inessa Galante, take top honours. Shaguch is the gutsier and more dramatic performer, delighting in Oksana's self-admiring aria from *Vakula the Smith*. Galante is made for Tchaikovsky's nervier heroines: Joan's farewell to her native woods in *The Maid of Orleans* and Tatyana's letter song from *Onegin*. Grave and bold contributions come from Sergei Leiferkus, rather rougher ones from the tenor Aexander Fedin.

The issue is marred by a shame-making booklet from Conifer. No indication of who sings what, no texts of the arias, and by the way, Conifer, Riga is not in Estonia.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **ELGAR/VAUGHAN WILLIAMS**
Violin Concerto; The Lark Ascending
Kennedy/Rattle/CBSO EMI CDC 5 56413 2 ★★★ £14.49

FORGET the hype: this is the genuine article — "Kennedy", as he prefers to be called in his latest incarnation, accompanied by Sir Simon Rattle in a brand new reading of Elgar's Violin Concerto that is rich in poetic insights.

The tone can be spiky (perhaps the recording is partly responsible), but it can also be sweet and supremely lyrical. In the slow movement, in particular, Kennedy modulates with assurance between grand rhetorical passion and inner reverie, while Rattle gives him every opportunity to tap this ruminative vein, arresting progress long enough for expressive points to be made. The finale's accompanied cadenza is rightly the apogee of this introspective approach, rather than mere pyrotechnical display.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
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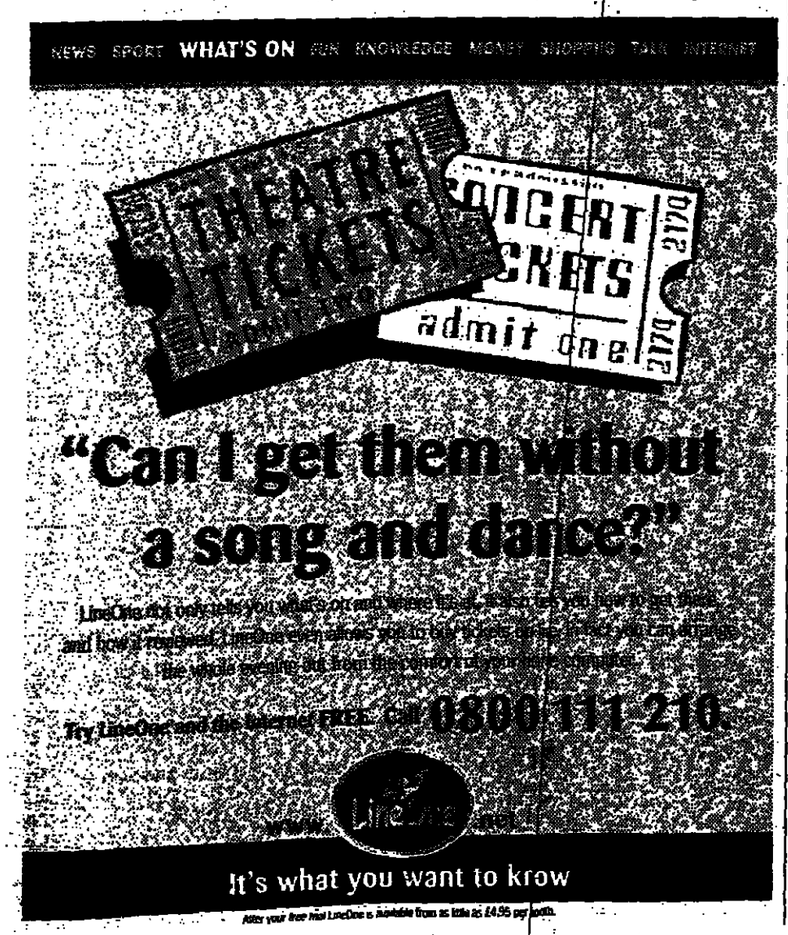

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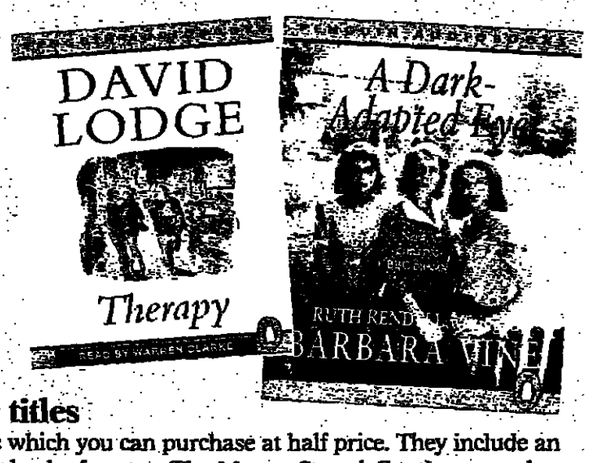

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CHANGING TIMES

هكذا من الاصل

On a journey through the City and the East End, **Peter Ackroyd** finds that the spirit of London is able to transcend time

Historic home town of griffin and phoenix

THE BUILDINGS OF ENGLAND
London 1: The City
By Simon Bradley and Nikolaus Pevsner
Penguin, £30
ISBN 0 14 071092 2

THE EAST END
Then and Now
By Winston G. Ramsey
After the Battle, £39.95
ISBN 0 9009 1399 1

Those who wonder why the City of London has chosen a griffin as its talisman will have their question answered by Pevsner and Bradley's book. That fabulous creature was, of course, the ferocious guardian of gold and buried treasure: it is placed at the boundaries of the old city, therefore, as a warning and a reminder. The area has been the centre of commerce for 2,000 years; from the first coin stamped with "Moneta Londinii" to the most recent building clad in aluminium or sea green-glass, it has been a city established upon money and upon power.

And so in this revised edition of Pevsner's guide there are as many banks as churches — it is sometimes difficult to recognise the difference — and the history of architecture also becomes the history of finance. Its maps themselves reveal how London has moved steadily outward in successive waves of development and destruction. John Stow lamented the "continual building of garden houses and small cottages" in the 16th century, while more than a century later Defoe marvelled at the prodigious extension of "this monstrous city". Eventually it became the "Great Oven" or the "Wen", a "Babylon" more vast and magnificent than its predecessor; it was the remorseless product of what Simon Bradley, in his excellent introduction, describes as "bewildering growth". That is why it is often compared to a labyrinth, or an uncharted sea dangerous for all those who choose to venture upon it.

The City is a wonderfully produced version of Pevsner's great guide, while its extensive revision and elaboration testify to the growth of its subject. The earlier volume included Westminster, but this most recent edition is concerned only with the City where "half the office space was rebuilt between 1985 and 1993". There has been nothing like it since the Great Fire.

Fire has always marked its history, of course, from the depredations of Boadicea to those of the Luftwaffe and the IRA. Yet it rises from its ruins in even greater splendour; it is not surprising that the most famous fire-insurance and fire-fighting office in the City should have been known as the "Phoenix". There have in turn been attempts to rebuild its streets and houses according to some visionary plan (Wren's being the finest example) but the local interests of ward and speculators have effectively prevented any such grandiose development.

For that reason it has preserved its identity for longer than any other urban area in the world. Its street plan in part still follows Saxon and medieval precedent, while the character of its buildings remains heterogeneous and often haphazard. It has always been an ugly city; it has always been the product of reconstruction bordering upon vandalism; it has always been a savage and secretive place.

The new buildings along Wormwood Street and the Minories provide a bulwark as great as any Roman wall; while the most recent structures testify to that pagan quality which other writers have discerned in the darkness of Lombard Street or Stew-Alley. Simon Bradley notes the pyramids and hanging gardens which have created a second Babylon, with new buildings of Egyptian or "glamorous and faintly sinister" appearance echoing the "Hindoo-Gothic" of another period. The forms of the Barbican are for him "cyclopean", while its aesthetic is "that of the Sublime". This is the true spirit of the city in which monumental styles of the past are plundered to convey the impression of magnificence in the most theatrical manner. It is the city of spectacle as well as of Mammon.

The East End Then And Now performs a different but not less instructive act of historical retrieval. In this unique volume, maps and photographs of every part of the East End have been aligned with newspaper reports, antiquarian accounts and cockney autobiographies. There is room here for endless contemplation. When five photographs from different decades of the notorious "Chinatown" in Limehouse are placed together, for example, we become aware of a district in some sense still haunted by the shape of its own past. It also becomes clear, in the constant comparison of old and new, that London has evolved into an infinitely lighter and more open city.

It is no longer so picturesque, of course, but who would dream of inhabiting a 19th-century photograph? There is nothing remotely quaint about the tower blocks and council estates of Hackney or Stepney, but they in turn will be replaced by structures of quite another kind. They were a necessary stage in the evolution of the East End, where there is now less death, disease and poverty.

There are, in any case, arresting continuities. The police check point at Aldgate is noted by Winston Ramsey to be "on the same site as the old gateway". Hyman's tailor shop in Whitechapel has now become an Asian fashion warehouse. Police security lights from the 1880s, in the area of the Ripper killings, have been transformed into "floodlights and video cameras".

But there are more general suggestions of what must be called the spiritual topography of the East End. The buildings of a location may change but, in many instincts the nature of the site remains the same. A place where many children died, in the First World War, is still a waste ground with strange graffiti inscribed upon a nearby wall. Not so far distant a great plague pit, mentioned by Defoe, remains a melancholy space used only as a car park. Chinatown may now be known as "Pennyfields", but Asian youths still linger in small groups among the council houses. Perhaps we might return to the City itself, and note that the famous Lloyd's Building is on the same spot where once the great maypole of London was erected.

In one of his aesthetic studies Nikolaus Pevsner tried to identify "the line of beauty" within English painting; these two books suggest that he might also have found that traditional line of harmony and continuity in less favoured circumstances.

Rat Catching at the Blue Anchor Tavern, Bunhill Row, Finsbury, circa 1850-52 from *London in Paint* by Mireille Galinou and John Hayes, Museum of London, £55

Sky is not the limit

Julia Blackburn on a strangely earthbound anthology

THE WILD BLUE YONDER
The Picador Book of Aviation
Edited by Graham Coster
Picador, £16.99
ISBN 0 330 33029 2

In 1804 Sir George Cayley published his findings on heavier-than-air flight and looked forward to the time when the "uninterrupted navigable ocean that comes to the threshold of every man's door will be a source of human gratification and advancement". It was 99 years before this dream was realised and the Wright brothers made a rather precarious entry into the wild blue yonder.

I had presumed that a book on aviation would begin with a melting Icarus, a vaulting Munchausen and a far-sighted Leonardo, interspersed with the universality of dreams of flying, but here the machine is only included once it has developed stiff wings and has given up trying to flap. So it means we are contained within this century: and as Graham Coster remarks rather ruefully in his introduction, it is surprising how infrequently flying has inspired this century's writers.

The early history of aviation was occupied by brave pioneers and flight was a solitary business for the simple reason that only one person could fit into the cockpit. Whether that person was any good with words was another matter. Lindbergh was not, nor was Amelia Earhart although she recently won herself an eloquent voice in the novel *I Was Amelia Earhart* by Jane Mendelsohn.

This collection of prose and poetry includes some wonderful accounts of flying, being flown and being flown over. Beryl Markham describes going non-stop from Abingdon, England, to a nameless swamp in Newfoundland, with the bucketing of a storm and the fuel tank running dry. St-Exupéry succeeds in his exquisite prose to put words to the experience of being caught in the heart of a cyclone.

Moving towards the Second World War and its fighter bombers, there is a devastating account of the destruction of Guernica, while the journalist Martha Gellhorn "sits on a wobbly crate in the middle of heaven, having decided against her better judgment to experience night flying in a Black Widow."

But then a number of chaps like Biggles are allowed to join in and although I suppose they give balance to the picture as a whole, I did tire of the complacent "us against them" approach. I longed to hear something like Stevie Smith's humanity and humour in her poem about an old man making love to a young girl while the German bombers drone overhead and the English bombers set out for Germany: "Harry, do they ever collide?/ I do not think it has ever happened./ Oh my bride, my bride."

With the development of technology, aerial warfare has taken on the mindless efficiency of a computer game, but the material included on this aspect of aviation was for me a disappointment. There must be some verbal approximation of the opening scene of *Apocalypse Now*, and even an excerpt from an advertising brochure on Stealth bombers would have said a lot.

Coster describes the airplane as the "Post-Modern translation of Don Quixote's horse: the transport to romantic and capricious adventure". But in spite of Bill Buford's football hooligans being sick in the aisles or Nicholson Baker's meditations on ventilation nozzles, there is nothing quixotic about being a passenger on a modern airline, strapped into something like a dentist's chair, passively suspended out of time and place. Certainly there is departure and there is arrival, but the area in between has no real substance to it beyond the vague image of clouds and distant land surfaces; darkness and the movie on the overhead screen. V. S. Naipal said air travel helped him to understand the idea of homelessness: perhaps that is the best that can be said about this strange limbo called flight.

The prince and the pilot: from Heinemann's new edition of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince* (£20)

In a secret world

Scott Bradfield

THE AGE OF WIRE AND STRING
By Ben Marcus
Flamingo, £12.99
ISBN 0 00 225650 9

THIS is a first book by a young author that doesn't explain itself too quickly. A self-described "catalog of the life process in the Age of Wire and String," it neither tells a story, nor evokes a single human character. Instead, like a parody of objectivity, it assembles a series of technical monographs on topics as oddly disparate as *The Death of Water, Dog, Mode of Heat Transfer in Barking*, and *The Food Costumes of Montana*.

At first glance, the prose is hard, angular and uninviting. Eventually, though, the dispassionate images build up lyrical intensity. You catch a few unauthorised glimpses of a secret world hidden inside this one. Then you run head-on into another enigma, such as the following definition of *coughing*: "Device for transporting people or goods from one level to another." And you're lost all over again.

Some early passages read like old-fashioned Surrealism, such as the following from *Intercourse with Resuscitated Wife*: "Superstitious act designed to insure safe operation of household machinery. Electricity mourns the absence of the energy form (wife) within the household's walls by stalling its flow to the outlets. As such, an improvised friction needs to take the place of electricity . . . This is achieved with the dead wife. She must be found, revived, and then penetrated until heat fills the room, until the toaster is shooting bread onto the floor, until she is smiling beneath you with black teeth and grabbing your bottom."

This is the closest any passage comes to a visual "scene". But as this genuinely original book progresses, you learn to doubt the sense you make of it. And you realise that the old, familiar words you *thought* you knew now mean something else entirely. Words like "wife", "man", "boy", "person", "weather" and even "Ohio". It's not that the words mean nothing, it's that they mean exactly what the book's narrator wants them to mean. And this narrator could be language itself.

The Age of Wire and String is a convincing, exasperating book in which subjective states are translated into will-less objects. And while it may seem simply offbeat, it possesses the sort of closet rationale one might expect from a follower of the French Oulipo movement or of the so-called "Martian" school of poets. It may not be an easy book to understand. But it's definitely a book that understands itself.

First blush of genius

Richard Cork

THE SHAMEFUL LIFE OF SALVADOR DALI
By Ian Gibson
Faber, £30
ISBN 0 571 167519

Anyone unsqueamish enough to write a life of Salvador Dali must beware, at the outset, of the exhibitionist's own memoirs. Ian Gibson's impressive book begins by admitting that *The Secret Life of Salvador Dali*, written by the artist in 1942, is a biographical minefield. Seemingly outspoken, it distorts the truth in a thousand sneaky, self-serving ways. Dali even lied about his elder brother, the first Salvador, who died when only 22 months old. The loss devastated his mother, who gave birth to the real Salvador nine months later, in May 1904. But Dali claimed that his brother had lived to the age of seven, and that his parents were guilty of a subconscious crime by expecting him to compete with an idealised memory of their gifted and precocious lost child.

In reality, Dali's mother was over-protective. She greeted him each morning with the doting words: "Sweet heart, what do you desire?" So he grew into an outrageously spoilt monster, thwarted only by the onset of a chronic sense of shame. Gibson is fascinated by this curious affliction. He emphasises how rare such an emotion is in Spain, where children are encouraged to show off. Dali soon felt acute shame about being ashamed, and made every attempt to mask it. He developed a phobia about his maddening tendency to blush, and the fearsomeness of his irascible notary father added to the young Dali's anxieties.

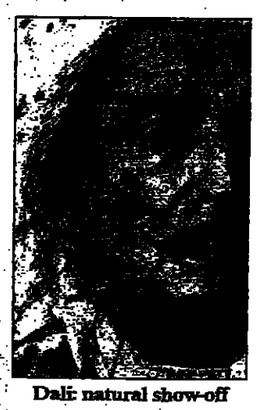
Relief was provided by summers spent in the coastal village of Cadaques. It was Dali's boyhood paradise. This remarkable stretch of the Iberian peninsula played a decisive role in his development. Cape Creus, a massive rocky headland which he later described as "a grandiose geological delirium", inspired many of the nightmarish landscapes in his finest paintings. But it did nothing to lessen his self-consciousness. As an adolescent, he could only cope with public appearances by making a melodramatic fool of himself. He specialised in throwing himself off staircases and surviving intact.

Such stunts were the precursors of Dali's adult exhibitionism, and boosted confidence in his overheated imagination. When his father decided to send him to the prestigious Royal Academy Special School of Painting, Sculpture and Engraving in Madrid, the 16 year-old Dali predicted in his diary that "I'll be a genius, and the world will admire me. Perhaps I'll be despised and misunderstood, but I'll be a genius, a great genius, I'm certain of it."

He flourished in Madrid, especially after befriending two even more gifted students: Buñuel and Lorca. These three extraordinary young men benefited from the stimulus of each other's company, and Lorca seems to have fallen passionately in love with Dali. When Lorca tried to consummate their relationship, though, Dali drew back. He always ferociously resisted the strong homosexual side of his nature, and throughout his life could only reach orgasm through masturbation. He also suffered from acute anxiety about the size of his penis, describing it as "small, pitiful and soft." Gibson proves an illuminating guide to the way Dali's tortured sexuality affected his best paintings, riddled as they are with images of flaccid, melting immobility.

His period as a memorable artist did not last long. After precocious success in Paris, where he was lionised by the Surrealists, Dali deteriorated. His father rejected him after discovering that Dali, in a Paris exhibition, had scrawled on one of his paintings: "I spit for pleasure on the portrait of my mother." The family was further enraged by his liaison with Gala, the man-devouring wife of the Surrealist Paul Eluard.

Dali and Gala stayed together, on and off, for the rest of their lives, although she had plentiful affairs with toyboys. Acting for many years as Dali's agent as well, she shared his insatiable appetite for cash. The richer they grew, the more Dali's art declined. André Breton, the high priest of Surrealism, nicknamed Dali with an inspired anagram: "Avida Dollars." Appalled by the artist's anti-Semitism and affiliation with Franco, Breton finally excommunicated Dali from the Surrealist faith. But neither he nor Gala cared. After their move to the United States in 1940, he degenerated into a vulgar travesty of his younger self.



Dali: natural show-off

Gibson is frank about the ghastliness of Dali's later life, and devotes a sharply decreasing amount of space to the showman's tedious, grotesque antics. He is right to do so. The ageing Dali even resorted to signing blank sheets of paper for others to commercially exploit. It seems fitting that he planned to install, outside his own bizarre museum in Figueres, a "vomitorium" so that departing visitors could throw up at their ease.

Near the end, he made legal provision for his face to be covered when he died — an astonishing decision for an incurable exhibitionist to take. Perhaps, like Dorian Gray, he wanted to hide the full extent of his physical and moral corruption from the rest of the world. By then, however, it was far too late.

Too swift to be sure

Helen Dunmore

A WORLD WHERE NEWS TRAVELLED SLOWLY
By Lavinia Greenlaw
Faber, £6.99
ISBN 0571 19160 6

IN A recent interview with Tim Kendall in the poetry magazine *Thumbscrew*, Lavinia Greenlaw responded with pleasure to the suggestion that her new poems were more engaged, more openly emotional than those in her first collection. "I'm glad you sensed this as it is what I have hoped for." Poets tend to acquire labels which have more to do with the convenience of those who are trying to sell the books than with the poet's own intentions. Greenlaw's first collection, *Night Photograph*, was published in 1993: the pitch for its contents became that she was a poet who wrote about science.

This was not untrue. In several poems, ideas drawn from astronomy, medicine or physics gave birth to metaphor. Paired stars which cannot "touch or part" reminded the poet of a past lover whose magnetism can never increase or decrease. The cool delicacy of the reminder was part of the poem's appeal. *Night Photograph* was a precise and entertaining book, especially when Greenlaw went rapidly into reverse at the very moment when she seemed about to meet her reader's expectations. Suddenly you saw that she was gently mocking the set-up: "You thought the poem was about this. But really, it is about that!"

A first collection of poems may have many weaknesses, but its strength is that it brings together the best poems of five years or a decade. No one has hurried these poems into print, or pressured the writer with the idea that she is this kind of poet, or that. The second collection is usually more problematic. Lavinia Greenlaw's *A World Where News Travelled Slowly* is a book about being changed and remade by love. From one poem to another there runs a story which is half-hidden, half-transparent. This could work wonderfully well, as it does in Emily Brontë's love-poems, or in Tess Gallagher's poems written for Raymond Carver.

Yet here, there is a strange stiltedness. The poems don't come close. Certainly, it isn't easy to make the sealed world of two lovers interesting to those outside the charm. The sense of "we" — so palpitatingly vital to the couple concerned — does not necessarily hold any meaning for others. At worst, the reader may feel like a a voyeur. If the poem does not offer an imaginative space which can be entered by others, and can kindle the imaginations of others, then it remains a notebook piece, however accomplished it may be.

There are two and a half lines in a poem called *No Particular Horse*, which sum up Greenlaw's strengths and show, perhaps, that she is thwarting herself in much of *A World Where News Travelled Slowly*. The poem wants to be about the quality of horseness, so it sets itself to escape from writing about a particular horse. But it cannot escape. Here is the real horse, and the real poet: "Running my hand/along the hooked spine of a broken-backed/roan crippled by a bite from his father."

Milk and cookies again

Elaine Showalter reveals that normal is as normal does

TOPHAM

Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, seated left, and his main co-authors at the 1953 conference at Indiana University's Institute for Sex Research

The life of the sexologist, modern biography has taught us, is not always spotless. Magnus Hirschfield, Havelock Ellis, even Masters and Johnson, had their little quirks. But somehow Alfred Clark Kinsey, the American "high priest of sexual liberation" escaped scandal until now. Whether because of his sturdy good looks, his well-publicised family life, or his Midwestern base in Bloomington, Indiana, Kinsey managed to combine a career of personal sexual research and erotic collecting with a reputation of what *Time* magazine called "almost monotonous" normality. Kinsey died in 1956 as an esteemed American man of science.

An article in the August 25 *New Yorker* by Kinsey's biographer James Jones exploded that myth, revealing that Kinsey had been a homosexual masochist and adulterer, whose method of assembling data was less scientific than partisan. Jones started studying Kinsey in 1970 — interviews in the bibliography date from 1971 — and has had access to all correspondence and files at the Kinsey Institute. He has written an intellectual biography of Kinsey and his circle of male researchers, and placed their work in the contexts of American culture before the Pill, before the women's movement, the sexual revolution or Aids.

Jones calls Kinsey's life "a uniquely American saga". A blond, sturdy New England lad, an Eagle Scout with a passion for collecting stamps and butterflies, he rebelled against his stern father's plan that he should become an engineer. Instead he studied biology, obsessively investigated the behaviour of gall wasps, and went on to be a collector of human sexual histories, gathered from research in universities, gay subcultures, brothels, Sunday school classes, and prisons. A product of the American Progressive Era, Kinsey celebrated marriage as the most efficient management of human society. His life and work echoed the stories of Sherwood Anderson about lonely spinsters and homosexuals in Winesburg, Ohio. Kinsey was the Sinclair Lewis of an erotic Main Street, where uptight bankers and lawyers had sex with animals, prostitutes, and each other. Jones says that Kinsey understood that "Americans were a people with secrets" and himself "embodied the contradictions between public persona and the hidden self".

Kinsey certainly had plenty of secrets. Although his Bowdoin College brothers thought he would be "quite a man" if he would just "loosen up", behind the collegiate facade of New England shyness and propriety Kinsey had already begun to develop his views that religion was the cause of sexual repression and to form his mission to flee America from its guilt and shame. He was also a chronic masturbator, repressed homosexual and budding masochist who specialised in inserting objects into his urethra. Kinsey managed both to indulge his secret desires and to punish himself for them. A patient, Mr Y, recalled that Kinsey always had "a long-suffering look on his face when he was having sex." Jones reports — can this be true? — that Kinsey had circumcised himself with a penknife in a bathtub. He took a cold shower every morning his entire life.

ALFRED C. KINSEY
A Public/Private Life
By James H. Jones
Norton, £29.95
ISBN 0 393 04086 0

Amazingly, in 1940, he was teaching a graphically illustrated course about sex and marriage to a students at Indiana University, perhaps, one visitor noted, "the last place in the world one would expect." Yet students seemed thrilled by the experience. "To me the behavior of the penis was already awe-inspiring, now it seems even more wonderful," gushed one coed. Jealous colleagues, nervous administrators and suspicious trustees eventually forced him to abandon the course, and emphasize research. But his "male volume" — the *Kinsey Report on Sexual Behavior in the Human Male* — published in January 1948, became an instant best-seller, despite moral objections from critics as diverse as Margaret Mead and Norman Vincent Peale.

His statistics about widespread homosexual experience went a long way towards changing public understanding and tolerance. Yet these statistics were fundamentally flawed. Kinsey did not use random sampling, but cluster interviewing — surveying an entire gay subculture, an undergraduate class or a prison ward.

He based much of his information on the sexual behaviour of children and adolescent boys on the testimony of paedophiles. Despite its bias, the report was a liberating intervention for its time. Lionel Trilling saw the *Kinsey Report* as a characteristically American document, expressing a "democratic pluralism" in the field of sexuality and a generous desire "for others not to be harshly judged."

Kinsey saw himself as Galileo or Darwin but he emerges from this biography more like a cult leader or the educator in a Joe Orton farce, gardening in a loincloth after Sunday church, swimming in the nude with his children. He enjoyed whipping out his "very large genitalia" at any pretext. Kinsey recruited his male colleagues on the basis of their ability, loyalty and open-mindedness and demanded that they get his advance approval for any extramarital affair. They accompanied him on "research trips" to various gay communities, red light districts or prisons.

Yet while they admired or even adored him, their wives detested him. They were pressured into participation in his sex research, from giving detailed interviews of their sexual histories to sleeping with Kinsey or his colleagues, to being filmed masturbating or having group sex. "He was a dirty old man," one wife told Jones. Another complained that she felt under "sickening pressure" to have sex on film with her spouse and other staff members because "her husband's career at the Institute depended on it". Kinsey did not view this as coercion, but as a mutual absence of shame or guilt.

Jones gives a disturbing account of Kinsey's relationship with his wife Clara. Outwardly, the Kinsey's were an "ideal" couple who called each other "Mac" and "Prok" and shared an enthusiasm for nudism, group sex and sexual experimentation. In 1939, Clyde Martin, Kinsey's student research assistant and lover, expressed interest in sex with 42-year-old Clara. According to Jones, she "happily consented". One staffer said Clara would have cut her wrists if Kinsey had asked her to. She also served milk, home-baked cookies and her famous persimmon pudding to refresh nude sex performers between takes, delivered clean towels and changed the sheets. She was filmed masturbating and having sex with Wardell Pomeroy, the most sexually athletic of the staff members. Pomeroy selflessly offered to have sex with a female friend in front of everyone, and did, as Kinsey gave detailed close-up commentary on the signs of sexual arousal. Other spouses on the team were less co-operative. In the 1940s, Kinsey's married associate Paul Gebhard started an affair with Clyde Martin's wife Alice, which Martin said made him feel that his "world was crumbling". In 1949, when all the Kinsey staff were participating in filmed sexual encounters, Martin and Alice refused. What Mrs Gebhard thought we do not know.

Like Kinsey himself, Jones is scientific and unjudgmental, and innocent in his temperate use of double entendres. (He notes that Kinsey's male colleagues "bent over backwards" to accommodate the great man. Indeed.) He offers a range of generous hypotheses for the behaviour of all involved. But readers will notice that two of Kinsey's three surviving children refused to be interviewed for the book and Jones did not have access to the correspondence between Alfred and Clara. Kinsey's odd combination of scientific curiosity and media management, of devotion to individual freedom in principle and disregard for individual autonomy in his own family and circle, makes him a fascinating subject, and at least one more biography, by Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, is in the works. This secret life, I suspect, has yet to be fully revealed.

Risk running in a rat race

Howard Davies wipes the dealers' blood off his loafers

F.I.A.S.C.O. is a nasty little book. But however nasty in both tone and content, it is not without merit, or interest.

First, though, the nastiness. Partnoy, who must now be — just — a thirtysomething, spent the early 1990s trading derivatives on Wall Street for Morgan Stanley. By his account, he was a successful member of Morgan's Derivative Products Group and made a good few millions for the firm putting together exotic packages, mainly built around doubtful Latin American bonds, and selling them on to gullible North American pension funds and insurance companies.

But the glamour and the monster bonuses (though Partnoy coyly draws a veil over how much he personally made) were not enough. He wanted fame, and royalties too. So this is a fearless exposé of life in Morgan Stanley and a "searing indictment" of its business practices: a kind of sell and tell, name and shame shocker.

F.I.A.S.C.O.
Blood in the Water on Wall Street
By Frank Partnoy
Profile, £16.99
ISBN

Partnoy adopts a *faux naif* persona which does not ring true. He purports to be appalled at the bad language — can you credit that people sometimes actually swear out loud in dealing rooms? And he is horrified by the fees earned selling risky financial instruments to people who didn't understand them and wouldn't have bought them if they had.

Eventually, Partnoy could stomach it no longer. The whole business was immoral, shameless, driven only by greed. So he marched boldly into the boss's office and told them he had had enough, he was leaving the rat race behind, off to join a corporate law firm in Washington DC. We can only presume that the Peace Corps was full at the time.

And yet, and yet — I can see why the publisher persevered. *F.I.A.S.C.O.* has two redeeming features. Partnoy is good at explaining the process of constructing swaps, options and the other exotica of the market. Of course he ought to be, having been directly employed on the shop floor, so to speak. But in fact it is rare to find such straightforward explanations of these transactions. If you have always wanted to know how to put together a LIBOR — a cubed swap, this is the book for you.

More importantly, Partnoy does raise, albeit in over-dramatised prose, the crucial questions: who should buy these instruments, and why? He argues that most Wall Street sales people could not care less who bought, and are cheerfully prepared to fill the socks of supposedly risk adverse public employees pension funds with highly leveraged products on which they might, and often do, lose their blue-collared shirts.

The book is gossip, rather than evidence, but there have been important cases in the United States — Orange County and Proctor and Gamble, to name but two — where brokers obsessively focused on their next bonus put their clients into wholly unsuitable investments. The Hammersmith and Fulham swap case here was another case in point.

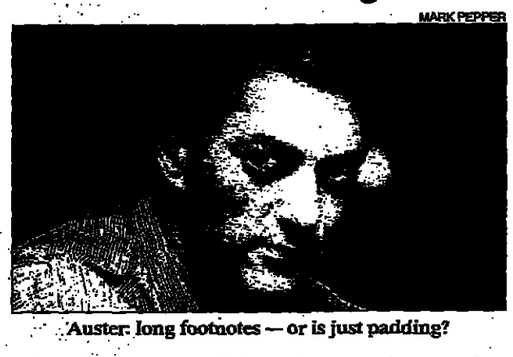
These are, of course, wholesale markets with professionals on both sides of the deal. *Caveat emptor* is the cry. But perhaps this book will inspire some of the less enlightened derivatives emptors to think harder about the risks they want to run. If so, Partnoy will have done something worthwhile, at last.

Howard Davies is Chairman of the Financial Services Authority.

Just stick with the story

Erica Wagner

HAND TO MOUTH
A Chronicle of Early Failure
By Paul Auster
Faber, £15.99
ISBN 0 571 171149 4



MARK PEPPER

Auster: long footnotes — or is just padding?

Thanks to his mother's second husband, Paul Auster got a job on a ship. The year was 1969; Auster had just done his stint at Columbia University. The ship was the *Esso Florence*, an oil tanker that plied the waves between the Atlantic coast and the Gulf of Mexico; his first taste of the romance of the sea involved mopping floors, scrubbing toilets and making beds. Auster, Jewish and with a college degree, was an oddity among the hardened Louisiana and Texas crewmen. He knew they would be curious about him, but he determined to keep things honest: "It would have been easy to make up stories about myself, but I had no interest in doing that."

Really? The Auster devotee might be tempted to inquire. For Auster has proved himself the American master of the Post-Modern nod and wink, introducing himself, one might be led to believe, in various aspects in his various books. One Paul Auster makes a sly appearance in *The New York Trilogy*; the narrator of *Leviathan* is introduced as P.A. That book tells "the true story" of P.A.'s best friend, a writer called Benjamin Sachs, who is able to "read the world as though it were a work of the imagination": by strange coincidence, that seems to be just Paul Auster's gift.

But it is a gift less apparent in this memoir than in his novels. Not least because most of the book is taken up by "three of the longest footnotes in literary history", according to his publisher. Length alone is not usually claimed as a literary virtue . . . and indeed, trawling through Auster's sub-Beckett plays, his reasonable pastiche of a hard-boiled detective novel and — well, I gave up trying to play "Action Baseball", the card game he invented in a bid for fortune, I rather found myself wishing for concision. There is a reason that this stuff didn't make him famous. Faber, I thought, would know better.

The memoir itself is entertaining enough. It breezes along, and provides enough Auster cameo characters to keep the reader amused. There is Elmer, who takes over the janitor's job on the *Esso Florence*, and ears with fundamentalist abandon; Casey and Teddy, the Laurel and Hardy pair he encounters in the Catskills; even the reporter for *The New York Times* whom Auster — holding the fort one night at the Paris bureau of the paper — instructs to "stick with the story, come hell or high water".

But the book is distanced, flippant: Elmer and his like don't draw us closer to the writer, they keep us separate, an audience to the end. What really formed Auster seems entirely absent. Perhaps that's what he wants; given the kind of writer he is it would not be surprising. So do not be deceived by the gold-bound heft of the book itself: it's much lighter than it seems. And I dare you to figure out Action Baseball.

Erica Wagner's collection of short stories, Gravity, is published this month by Granta, priced £9.99.

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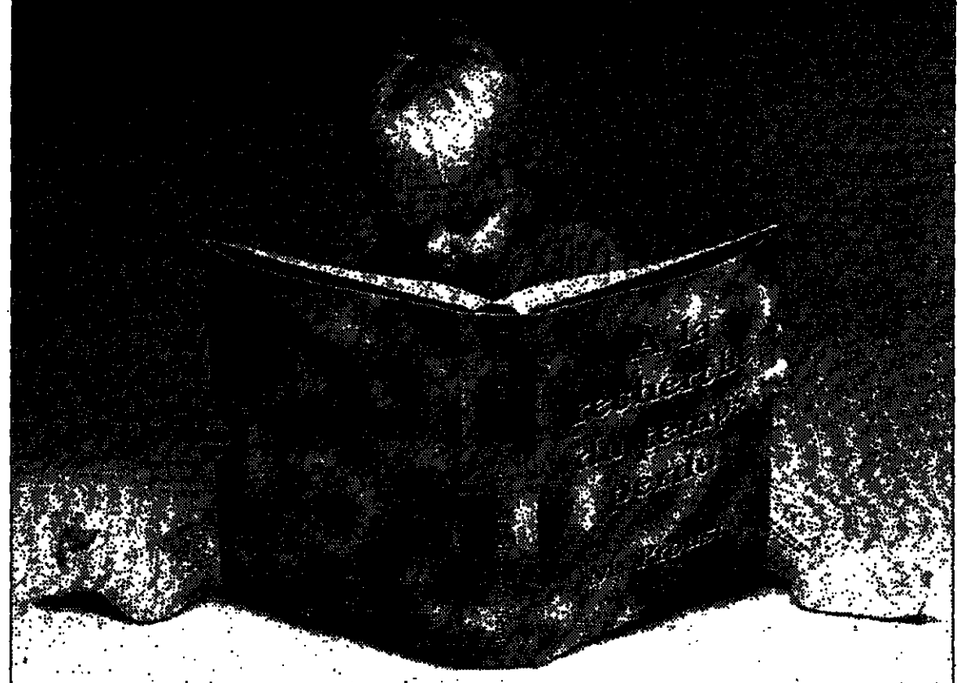

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SEATS for the *Phantom of the Opera* and the horror of shopping in London's West End are available on a weekend break with Centre Stage. The price of £99 also includes two nights B&B at the Savoy Court or Grafton Hotel. Details: 0800 335588.

■ IF CHRISTMAS shopping in a fashionable city other than London appeals, Sunvil UK is offering two-night breaks with full breakfast at the four-star Channings hotel, in a cobbled street near the centre of Edinburgh, for £109pp. Details: 0181-232 9788.

■ GETTING guests into shape before Christmas is the aim of David Lloyd Leisure, with weekend breaks in Eastbourne featuring eight hours of tennis tuition and unlimited use of the pool, gym and squash courts. The price of £119 also includes accommodation, breakfast and lunch. Details: 01323 520091.

■ SINGLES over 30 can get in the festive spirit early by joining a three-night break in Inverness from December 5 with Solo Holidays. Costing £359, it includes Christmas dinner, rambles to walk it off, and visits to Loch Ness and Cawdor Castle. Details: 0181-951 2800.

■ *RIVERDANCE* is returning to London and Superbreak is offering a £95 package to see the show and stay at the five-star Radisson Edwardian hotel. Available until February. Details: 0161-238 5257.

■ ACTIVE families can tackle quad bikes, Honda Pilots and archery on a Christmas break at the four-star Combe Grove Manor hotel, Bath. The three-night package, including all meals and a Boxing Day dinner-dance, costs £430. Children under 14 sharing their parents' room pay £90. Details: 01225 834644.

EUROPE

PARIS for four nights for £149 including B&B and a flight from Manchester next Monday on an Airtours package is among late offers available from Co-op Travelcare. Details: 0541 500388.

■ DUBLIN is one of the most popular destinations for short breaks and Aer Lingus has announced its best rates yet with two nights B&B and return flights from London costing £95 a person. Details: 0181-899 4747.

■ THE ALGARVE is still warm enough for a pleasant holiday and comes cheaper than in high season, with a fortnight's self-catering at the Club Praia da Rocha costing £220 a person (based on four sharing) with Lunn Poly. Fly from Gatwick to Faro on November 15. Details from the company's Holiday Shops.

■ BIRDWATCHING from a floating hotel in the Danube delta is the intriguing prospect on offer from Naturetrek as part of a seven-day trip starting on November 22. It also takes in Romania's Black Sea coast. Price: £895 with flights, accommodation, all meals and an expert guide. Details: 01962 733051.

■ THE AMALFI coast's newest hotel, the five-star Palazzo Sasso, in a restored 12th-century villa at Ravello, is included in a luxury break available from Virgin Hotels for £499. Fly from Gatwick to Naples for three nights dinner, bed and breakfast. A week's stay costs £799. Details: 0800 716919.

■ THE CHANCE to visit one of Europe's oldest pharmacies in a 16th-century monastery is being highlighted by Slovenija Pursuits as part of a week's package to Jelenov Greben. The trip costs £470, including return flights from Heathrow and half-board. Details: 01763 852646.

■ TEENAGERS can enjoy skiing without their parents in a unique programme with the Ski Club of Great Britain, which includes competitions, trials and entertainment. Places are available for 13 to 19-year-olds in Tignes for a week from December 13 for £395, including return flights from Gatwick and full-board chalet accommodation. Details: 0181-410 2000.

The Beaujolais Nouveau festival, marking the release of the new wine with a gala dinner, fireworks and dancing until dawn, is featured in a three-day break available from VFB Holidays from November 18. Price: £324 with rail travel. Details: 01242 240338.

BALI remains one of the romantic destinations and is available at a £319 saving from Premier Holidays if you travel before December 9. For £685, you can fly BA from Heathrow and stay for a week in a five-star beach hotel. Details: 01223 516677.

■ THE GAMBIA Experience is offering river and sea fishing holidays. A week's B&B, with return flights from Gatwick or Manchester, costs from £288, and three days river fishing costs an extra £75. Details: 01703 730888.

■ SINGAPORE for five nights is available this month at a £100 saving from Qantas Holidays. The new price of £529 includes non-stop flights from Heathrow and hotel. Details: 0990 673464.

■ THE CRUISE LINE is marking the refurbishment of the *Flamenco* with a 17-night transatlantic and Caribbean package from £899, including all meals. Fly to Italy on December 3 and sail to the West Indies via Malaga and Madeira. Details: 01273 835252.

■ WILDLIFE and a bird sanctuary, as well as the more traditional tourist venues of the Taj Mahal and Jaipur, are included in an 11-day tour of India, leaving Heathrow on December 4 with Travelbag Adventures. Priced from £795, the package includes B&B and a tour leader. Details: 01420 541007.

■ FLYING to the States in the New Year? If you book by next Wednesday, half-price deals on Continental Airlines are available from Globesavers for return flights between January 5 and March 31. New York costs from £153 and San Francisco from £215 with tax extra. Details: 0990 556556.

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RACING: BREEDERS' CUP SERIES OFFERS ESSEX-BORN TRAINER PLATFORM TO REACH PINNACLE OF CAREER

Byrne prospers in land of opportunity

FROM CHRIS MCGRATH
AT HOLLYWOOD PARK

IN PARTS of Los Angeles, the American dream awakens to a thousand square miles of nightmare. As if being menaced by earthquakes was insufficient, the city can turn crazily to self-mutilation, not merely with smog, which blurs still further its lack of geographic focus, but the gang violence which cut loose the riots of five years ago.

Yet within this same sprawling, amorphous landscape a story is unfolding to revive faith in the alternative, redemptive version of the American dream. Patrick Byrne, racehorse trainer, is not the most obvious of all-American heroes. He was actually born in Romford, 41 years ago. But those who proclaim this as the land of opportunity cherish that detail, evidence of the diverse cultural strands woven into the stars and stripes. Here, they say, you can get to the top, whoever you are. You do not, as in the old country, get there simply because of who you are.

In Britain, he was a stable lad with Reg Akehurst. He worked and worked and got nowhere. He had not saved any money, but he had preserved enough of his dreams to try his luck in America. Here he became more or less an overnight success. He did have to wait the best part of two decades for that night, but the difference was that he never feared his efforts were being wasted.

ED BYRNE

Patrick Byrne with the unbeaten Favorite Trick, who looks certain to head the betting for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile on Saturday

This spring in Kentucky at Churchill Downs, his home course, he suddenly saddled 14 winners from 17 runners. Now three of his 30 horses are boarding at Hollywood Park, preparing for the fourteenth Breeders' Cup on Saturday. Each is favourite for its race: Favorite Trick, unbeaten in seven, for the Juvenile; Countess Diana for the Fillies' Juvenile; and Richter Scale for the Sprint.

The sight of their handsome heads peering out of one of the course's 18 training barns provides testimony to the art of the possible in America. An aspiring trainer does not have to paw at the tweeds of rich acquaintances. He hires the empty nook of a racecourse, gallops a cast-off on the dirt, and sees what happens. "A lot of guys start with three or four horses," Byrne said. "All they need is owners to pay their bills on time."

After a couple of seasons in New York, Byrne took his young family to Kentucky, where seven years' hard, attritional labour has forced a spectacular breach. Now he holds easy-going court to the press, reconstructing five generations of racing in the family, time in Ireland, time with Akehurst, time with Frank Cundell, time slipping between the fingers of a young man. At one stage, he even drifted away to become a trainee underwriter at Lloyd's.

"It was Dickensian," he says of his time in Epsom. "I worked my backside off for Reg Akehurst, used to muck out 20 stalls a day. He did nothing for me, never gave me a ride. When I came here, I barely had a dollar in my pocket. But you can work hard and get nowhere in England. If you work at it here, it's going to happen. I could never have achieved this in England, even though I always felt myself talented. Five years ago, I became an American citizen, and this is home now."

Should Favorite Trick become the first American two-year-old to go "eight for eight" since 1952, there is even talk of his being elected only the second juvenile Horse of the Year after Secretariat. Countess Diana, meanwhile, broke a 52-year track record at Pimlico. In Los Angeles, one speaks only nervously of ground-breaking achievements — his third challenger, after all, is Richter Scale.

"I will settle for three winners," he said. "I hate to sound greedy, but I will be disappointed if they don't all win."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: FLYING GUNNER (1.50 Towcester)
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There is certainly a stirring sense of destiny to Byrne's bold intrusion on the territory of D Wayne Lukas. "There's no comparison," Byrne said. "He's an icon. But I do feel I have legitimate shots here. When people like Wayne are up against Pat Byrne, they know I'm not there just to see what the paddock looks like."

This, after all, is Hollywood, and a tale that gives heart to the glamorously disfigured mythology of America. Byrne knows the script, all right. "I'm just a regular guy," he says. "A regular, hard-working guy that's getting a break." Roll those credits.

McCoy in overdrive for fastest hundred

TONY McCOY broke his own record for the fastest 100 winners in a season when driving Sam Rockett to victory in the J C Milton 'She's Finally Gone' Handicap Hurdle at Newton Abbot yesterday.

On November 21 last year he broke Peter Scudamore's record for the fastest hundred by 30 days, and lowered that by a further 16 days on the Martin Pipe-trained hurdler.

Sam Rockett was pressed all the way up the straight, but was kept going in typically powerful fashion by McCoy to repel all challengers, helping the 23-year-old rider to another memorable landmark. "If I stay in one piece I'm going to aim at Peter Scudamore's record of 221 winners," he said. "Mr Pipe's horses have been a big help to me."

Having started the day on 98, McCoy wasted no time in setting about his target, winning the opening West Country Festival Novices' Chase on Bamapour, also trained by Pipe. He then completed a quick treble in the third race, again for his retaining stable, on Evangelica.

However, any hopes of going through the card were dashed when Dolce Notte, his ride in the next, faded badly after setting a strong early pace.

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1.00 BACK ROW (nap)
1.30 Kilcullen
2.00 Inshallah
2.30 Salska
3.00 Westminster
3.30 Chocolate Box
4.00 Winston

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.30 ALL ON.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 12.30 ALFAHAAL (nap). 1.30 Kilcullen. 3.30 Chocolate Box.

GOING: GOOD — DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — SIS

12.30 LADBROKE ON-COURSE HANDICAP
(Div I: £3,136: 1m) (14 runners)

101 (2) 3121055 ANTARCTIC STORM 19-10-0 (Northumbria Leisure) R Fahey 4-10-0 R Winston (5) 87
102 (1) 0025610 KNOBBLEENEEZE 5 (V,D,F,G,S) (A Andrews) M Channon 7-9-11 .. A Culhane 86
103 (5) 0140242 KASS ALHAWA 3 (D,F,S) (J Wilson) D Chapman 4-9-7 .. G Duffield 85
104 (4) 1305000 RUNNING GREEN 9 (V,D,S) (Die-Hard HC) D Moffatt 8-9-7 .. D McKeown 84
105 (3) -800000 MAZEED 8 (V,F) (Mrs L Windsor) P Evans 4-9-3 .. J F Egan 80
106 (13) 4434000 MONACO 16 (Ian R Ramsden) R Allan 3-9-2 .. J Quinn 84
107 (10) 1053001 ALFAHAAL 24 (D,F,S) (M Foulger) C Dwyer 4-9-2 .. J Fortune 90
108 (14) 0005400 DENTON LAD 17 (G) (Mrs M Irwin) W Kemp 8-9-0 .. J Carroll 86
109 (7) 0500013 SCATHEBURY 10 (BF,CD,F,B) (N Shields) A Bailey 4-8-12 .. L Charnock 89
110 (6) 0350000 GENUINE JOHN 17 (B) (Mrs G Spink) J Parkes 4-8-9 .. N Day 77
111 (12) 0000300 FOREST ROBIN 3 (B) (Platinum Racing Ltd) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-6 .. F Lynch 85
112 (9) 0000520 THE BARNSLEY BELLE 86 (K Maxwell) J Eyre 4-8-5 .. T Williams 86
113 (11) 5500000 SIX FOR LUCK 23 (C,F) (Mrs J McFadyen-Murray) D Nolan 5-8-3 .. A Mackay 79
114 (8) 5409084 THATCHED 9 (CD,F,G) (C Harwood) R Barr 7-8-0 .. P Fessey (3) 80

BETTING: 4-1 Alfahaal, 9-2 Antarctic Storm, 6-1 Knobbleeneeze, 7-1 Kass Alhawa, Thatched, 12-1 Forest Robin, 14-1 Running Green, Monaco, Scathebury, The Barnsley Belle, 16-1 others.

1996: SCARABEN 8-10-0 J Fortune (8-1) S Kettlewell 14 ran

FORM FOCUS: Antarctic Storm 5¼l 5th to Gull Shaadi in 1m Newmarket handicap (good) Knobbleeneeze 7¼l 14th to Wild Sky in 7f Newmarket handicap (good to firm), Kass Alhawa 5l 2nd to Sovereignas Court in 1¼m Nottingham handicap (good). Alfahaal beat Star Turn sh hd in 1m Leicester stakes (soft) with Genuine Joint (5lb better off) 17l 15th: Scathebury 8¼l 3rd to Mytons Mistake in 1m Leicester apprentice claiming handicap (good). The Barnsley Belle 9¼l 12th to Welcome Heights in 7f Doncaster handicap (good). Thatched 1¾l 4th to Saalbach in 1m Redcar handicap (good to firm) with Running Green (2lb worse off) 4¾l 11th and Forest Robin (2lb worse off) 6½l 15th.

KNOBBLEENEEZE is on a good mark and the ground was too firm last time

1.00 SUPPORTERS CARE HANDICAP (Div I: £3,214: 1m 4f) (13 runners)

201 (2) 3/00005 SLASHER JACK 23 (C,D,F,G) (T Chang) R Fahey 5-9-12 .. R Winston (5) 58
202 (13) 0000333 DOC RYAN'S 7 (B) (P Flavin) M Ryan 3-9-8 .. P McCabe (3) 69
203 (4) 050223 BACK ROW 6 (C Barber-Lomax) J Hetherton 3-9-7 .. G Duffield 65
204 (12) 2500020 LORD ADVOCATE 23 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J M-Murray) D Nolan 9-9-6 .. P Fessey (3) 64
205 (11) 0682114 FIGHTING TIMES 15 (V,BF,F,G) (J Gaves Ltd) C Smith 5-9-3 .. D McKeown 72
206 (3) 4362510 KINGDOM PEARL 31 (D,G) (B Tomshuli Ltd) M Camacho 3-8-11 .. L Charnock 70
207 (6) 1353000 MOONRAKING 50 (D) (Ian Baldwin) T Etherington 4-8-7 .. Dale Gibson 66
208 (7) 0652500 MIAMI MOON 3 (M B Clemencey & Johnson Houghton 3-8-4 .. DOUBTFUL 64
209 (10) 1541003 BROCTUNE LIKE 15 (D Playforth) Mrs M Reveley 3-8-2 .. K Darley 70
210 (5) 0020600 HAVANA HEIGHTS 20 (F) (A Croft) J Eyre 4-8-0 .. J Quinn 72
211 (9) 06-0006 RAASED 9 (G) (Marron Investments Ltd) F Watson 5-8-0 .. J Carroll 66
212 (8) 00-0023 PROTARAS BAY 6 (Cawburn Partnership) P Eccleston 3-7-11 .. A Polli (5) 68
213 (1) 0044500 MAURANGI 9 (B,F,G) (M Foran) G Murray 6-7-10 .. D Wright 64

Long handicap: Maurangi 7-5.

BETTING: 3-1 Back Row, 5-1 Fighting Times, 7-1 Doc Ryan's, Lord Advocate, Kingdom Pearl, 8-1 others.

1996: PEEP O DAY 5-8-1 T Williams (25-1) J Eyre 13 ran

FORM FOCUS: Slasher Jack 12l 5th to Priolo Prima in 1¼m Leicester handicap (good to soft) Doc Ryan's 2l 3rd to Brave Envoy in 1m Nottingham handicap (good) Back Row 2¾l 3rd to Ordained in 1¼m Newmarket fillies handicap (good to firm). Fighting Times 1¾l 4th to Brambles Way in 1¼m Newcastle handicap (good to firm). Kingdom Pearl 1¾l 10th to Siberian Mystic in 1½m Pontefract apprentice handicap (good to firm) with Havana Heights (levels) 12l 12th. Broctune Like 1¾l 3rd to Vanadium One in 1¼m Newcastle handicap (good to firm) Raased 12l 6th to Pickers in 1m3f Redcar claimer (good to firm) with Maurangi (6lb better off) 14l 8th. Protaras Bay 1l 3rd to Tipperary Sunset in 1m1f Newmarket apprentice handicap (good to firm)

FIGHTING TIMES will go very well if he stays the extra two furlongs

1.30 COCKATOO EBF MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,630: 1m) (8 runners)

301 (5) 0 CAPLAW SKEEN 15 (G Bernacchi) J Eyre 9-0 .. O Peers 90
302 (3) 3 KILCULLEN 13 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0 .. J Carroll 74
303 (1) 5 TEN BOB 15 (Mrs M Tompkins) M Tompkins 9-0 .. D Biggs 79
304 (4) 00030 TOM 24 (B) (C Barber-Lomax) J Hetherton 9-0 .. L Charnock 72
305 (7) 33635 WUXI VENTURE 34 (V) (Dr F Chan) S Woods 9-0 .. N Day 81
306 (6) 06 ANNOUNCING PEACE 10 (Mrs P O'Neill) C Dwyer 8-9 .. J Quinn –
307 (8) 5 KAMEEZ 15 (A Saeed) M Johnston 8-9 .. D McKeown 2-1
308 (2) 00 ZEPTEPI 58 (Kings Cross Racing) R Simpson 8-9 .. M Gallagher –

BETTING: 4-5 Wuxi Ventura, 5-2 Kilcullen, 10-1 Kameez, 14-1 Caplaw Skeen, Ten Bob, 16-1 others.

1996: WELLAKI 9-0 J Carroll (5-4 fav) J Gosden 7 ran

FORM FOCUS: Caplaw Skeen 14l 9th to Love Academy in 6f Newcastle maiden (good to firm). Kilcullen 3¼l 3rd to Zaya in 7f Doncaster maiden (good). Ten Bob 5¾l 6th to Jila in 7f Yarmouth maiden (good). Tom 20l last of 15 to Kayo in 1m Ayr nursery (soft). Wuxi Ventura 6¾l 5th to Haami in 7f Newmarket fillies stakes (good to firm) Announcing Peace 12l 8th to Madjamalz in 7f Lingfield maiden (good). Kameez 7l 5th to Frond in 7f Newcastle maiden (good to firm)

WUXI VENTURE takes a massive drop in class and is the pick on form

2.00 COCKATOO SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,396: 5f) (9 runners)

401 (5) 40600 BARRELINO 20 (A Sweetley & I Cross) J J O'Neill 9-7 .. K Darley 66
402 (3) 0640300 INSHALLAH 15 (Leeds Plywood & Doors Ltd) M Todhunter 9-7 .. J Carroll 65
403 (6) 4064035 GLASS RIVER 9 (R Mason) P Evans 9-5 .. A Culhane 60
404 (7) 040020 SATIS 33 (B Walters, Catering) M Channon 8-12 .. P Fessey (3) 84
405 (9) 0002 ESSE 24 (J Berry) J Berry 8-12 .. P Fessey (3) 64
406 (4) 6350030 NIAGERE PRINCESS 21 (Drakemyre Racing) W Kemp 8-12 .. T Williams 59
407 (8) 000000 DIBOLA 21 (B) (S Pedersen) J Wainwright 8-10 .. D McKeown 54
408 (1) 430 GLENSTAL LAD 108 (J Graham) R Hollinshead 8-7 .. F Lynch 50
409 (11) 0400002 TM TEF 17 (T E F Freight (Scarborough) Ltd) T Easterby 8-5 .. L Charnock 74
410 (2) 0000002 TM TEF 17 (T E F Freight (Scarborough) Ltd) T Easterby 8-5 .. Iona Wands (5) 87

BETTING: 5-2 Glass River, 4-1 Esse, 9-2 Barrelino, 5-1 I'm Tef, 8-1 Glenstal Lad, 12-1 Inshallah, 14-1 others.

1996: FEARLESS CAVALIER 6-8 F Lynch (7-4 fav) R Hollinshead 11 ran

FORM FOCUS: Barrelino 5½l 7th to Ray Of Sunshine in 7f Catterick nursery (soft) Inshallah 8¾l 7th to Love Academy in 6f Newcastle maiden (good to firm). Glass River 2¼l 5th to Mary Jane in 5f Redcar maiden auction (good to firm). Satis 19l last of 9 to Rare Indigo in 5f Wolverhampton seller (AW). Esse 9l 2nd to Court Lane in 6f Ayr maiden (soft). Glenstal Lad 15l 11th to High-Carry in 5f Beverley claimer (good to firm). I'm Tef 1¾l 2nd to Santa Faye in 6f Southwell nursery (AW).

INSHALLAH shapes as a better than his current mark and is worth a bet

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Parkes	3	9	33.3	F Lynch	3	6	50.0
M Tompkins	6	22	27.3	J Egan	10	45	22.2
M Channon	10	37	27.0	G Duffield	15	71	21.1
S C Williams	8	32	25.0	K Darley	42	204	20.6
T Etherington	5	22	22.7	J Quinn	7	44	15.9
J Berry	38	186	20.4	A Culhane	13	88	14.8

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 89

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

2.30 OLIVER HOMES NOVEMBER HANDICAP
(£7,298: 2m) (17 runners)

501 (6) 0205/0- SHOWARA'S WAY 406J (F,S) (A Eubiha) P Monteith 6-10-0 .. D Pears –
502 (8) 6552600 SEA VICTOR 19 (D,F,G) (J Abell) J L Harris 5-9-9 .. D McKeown 94
503 (15) 1323130 HERE COMES HERBIE 19 (CD,G,S) (H Hutchinson) W Storey 5-9-5 .. J F Egan 92
504 (2) 0521641 NICHOL FIFTY 9 (F,G) (L Berlacki) M Tompkins 3-9-5 (Sex) .. D Biggs 90
505 (12) 0/40/-1 OUTSET 19 (F) (M Kilner) M Hammond 7-9-2 .. J Carroll 88
506 (10) 0155502 SALSKA 7 (D,F,G) (P Clinton) A Streeter 6-8-13 .. L Newton 87
507 (7) 2112990 THE BUTTERWICK KID 7 (C,D,S) (R Chambers) R Fahey 4-8-13 .. R Winston (5) 85
508 (13) 0231025 GOLD DESIRE 21 (F,G,S) (Nottingham Lodge RC) M Brittain 7-8-13 .. D Mernagh (7) 90
509 (17) -580020 ALPINE PANTHER 33 (P Smith) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-11 .. K Darley 91
510 (16) 0125610 CHILDREN'S CHOICE 6 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Tolman) W Musson 6-8-9 .. C Lowther (3) 87
511 (1) 3112530 GOLDEN HADEER 22 (D,F,G,S) (Four Jays Racing 2) M Ryan 6-8-8 .. P McCabe (3) 91
512 (4) 00-6110 THEME ARENA 13 (V,D,F,S) (A Solomons) M Pipe 4-8-7 .. M Henry (3) 90
513 (11) 1313333 ALL ON 13 (C,F,G,S) (N Hetherton) J Hetherton 8-8-7 .. R French (3) 2-1
514 (3) 65-1012 TARRY 6 (F,G,S) (Pieces Of Eight Pubs) Miss G Kelleway 4-8-5 .. G Duffield 95
515 (14) 4431060 NORTHERN MOTTO 117 (C,F,S) (D Callaghan) J Goldie 4-8-3 .. J Quinn 93
516 (9) 0-16115 SELMESTON 22 (D,G,S) (C Wright) S C Williams 5-8-3 .. T Williams 87
517 (5) 4112514 PHLIMIST 24 (B,G,S) (C Barber-Lomax) Miss L Perratt 5-8-2 .. L Charnock 89

BETTING: 5-1 Theme Arena, 6-1 Sea Victor, 8-1 Outset, 10-1 Salska, Tarry, Selmeston, 12-1 Here Comes Herbie, Nichol Fifty, Gold Desire, All On, 14-1 others.

1996: NORTHERN MOTTO 3-8-6 J Quinn (8-1) J Goldie 17 ran

FORM FOCUS: Sea Victor 34l 18th to Turnpole in 2¼m Newmarket (good) with Here Comes Herbie (4lb better off) 43l 21st and Salska (10lb better off) 46l 28th Nichol Fifty beat Tandem 1½l in 1½m Leicester stakes (good). Outset beat Highfield Fitz 3¾l in handicap 1¼m Redcar (good to firm). Salska 2¼l 2nd to Jawah in 1¾m Nottingham handicap (good) with The Butterwick Kid (levels) 9¾l 8th. Gold Desire 10l 5th to Whitley Grange Boy in 1¾m Catterick handicap (soft). Theme Arena 17l 7th to Whitechapel in 2m Newbury handicap (good). All On 3¾l 3rd to Jawah in 1¾m Doncaster handicap (good) Tarry 1¾l 2nd to Ordained in 1¼m Newmarket fillies handicap (good to firm) with Children's Choice (levels) 13l 9th. Northern Motto 13l 8th to Rex Mundi in 2m Chester handicap (good to firm) Phlimist 4l 4th to Pekay in 1m3f Ayr handicap (soft).

ALL ON is steadily coming to hand and merits each-way consideration

3.00 SUPPORTERS CARE HANDICAP (Div II: £3,194: 1m 4f) (13 runners)

601 (11) 4355-0 TICKINTIMA 152 (A Pease) M Hammond 3-9-12 .. J Carroll 49
602 (4) 0655003 WESTMINSTER 9 (V,D,F,S) (M Jenkins) M Tompkins 5-9-8 .. D Biggs 76
603 (1) 00040 PUTERI WENTWORTH 22 (Sultan Ahmad Shah) Miss G Kelleway 3-9-7 .. J Fortune 72
604 (3) 1020032 FORZAIR 24 (D,F) (C Bigley Partnership Ltd) J J O'Neill 5-9-3 .. C Lowther (3) 72
605 (8) 4251557 TYCOON TINA 16 (C,S) (A Brooke Rankin) W M Brisbourne 3-8-11 .. J Bramhill 71
606 (6) 1300000 LIVE PROJECT 15 (S) (Mrs S Dixon) R Craggs 5-8-9 .. A Culhane 69
607 (2) 545-000 BELZAO 13 (G Pipe) R Simpson 4-8-7 .. M Gallagher 55
608 (7) 1015002 ARIF 15 (B,D,S) (Mrs A Harris) J A Harris 5-8-2 .. DOUBTFUL 75
609 (9) 5005601 WELCOME HOME 19 (D) (Messinger Stud) Miss D Haldane 3-8-1 .. L Charnock 70
610 (10) 010-006 PEEP O DAY 20 (CD,G,S) (J Holdroyd) J Eyre 6-8-0 .. T Williams 2-1
611 (5) 000000 NOTATION 17 (J Chapman) D Chapman 3-7-13 .. P Fessey (3) 74
612 (13) 0-00065 JIMJAREER 20 (Mrs G Rees) J H Wilson 4-7-11 .. A Mackay 73
613 (12) 0440200 GOLD CLIPPER 30 (B) (P Anon) M Ryan 3-7-10 .. R French (3) 63

Long handicap: Gold Clipper 7-4

BETTING: 3-1 Westminster, 7-2 Welcome Home, 11-2 Puteri Wentworth, 13-2 Tycoon Tina, 7-1 Forzair, 8-1 Tickintima, 12-1 Live Project, Peep O Day, 16-1 others.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS: Tickintima 16l 14th to Jedi Knight in 7f Doncaster handicap (good) Westminster 6¼l 3rd to Talbiah Belle in 1¼m Redcar stakes (good to firm) Puteri Wentworth 25l 7th to Moon Colony in 1¾m Nottingham maiden (soft). Forzair 4l 2nd to Once More For Luck in 1m3f Ayr seller (soft) Tycoon Tina 20l 7th to Star Entry in 1¼m Folkestone handicap (good). Arif 1¾l 2nd to Angus in 1½m Yarmouth selling handicap (good). Welcome Home beat Pontie Sophie 1¾l in 1½m Wolverhampton fillies handicap (AW). Notation 21l 8th to Needwood Epic in 1¼m Southwell handicap (AW) Jimjareer 21l 5th to Swan Hunter in 1½m Catterick apprentice claimer (soft) with Peep O Day (4lb worse off) 23l 6th. Gold Clipper 28l 13th to Fighting Times in 1¼m Warwick claiming handicap (good to firm).

FORZAIR is a consistent sort and should give another good account

3.30 OLIVER HOMES EBF MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,552: 7f 30yd) (10 runners)

1 (8) 4 CULCRAGGIE 23 (Guthrie Robertson) J Eyre 9-0 .. T Williams 72
2 (6) 0042506 GIFT OF GOLD 15 (Classic Gold) I Campbell 9-0 .. A Mackay 71
3 (5) 06004 ONE TO GO 9 (Mirror Punters Club) J Berry 9-0 .. P Fessey (3) 73
4 (3) 00 OPENING NIGHT 9 (Miss J Rumford) R Simpson 9-0 .. M Gallagher 88
5 (4) 62 THREE ANGELS 16 (B Bloom) M Tompkins 9-0 .. D Biggs 64
6 (9) 0040 ABSTONE PET GIRL 5 (J Abbey) P Evans 8-9 .. J F Egan 63
7 (2) 63064 ANKA LADY 24 (F Coulson) D Moffatt 8-9 .. Darren Moffatt (3) 62
8 (10) 3 CHOCOLATE BOX 24 (J Greetham) W Haggas 8-9 .. F Lynch 2-1
9 (7) 0 MAC'S TYPE 15 (Black Type Racing) W Storey 8-9 .. J Fanning –
10 (1) MINSTER MOORGATE (C Wilmot-Smith) M W Easterby 8-9 .. G Parkin (3) –

BETTING: 5-2 Culcraggie, 7-2 Chocolate Box, 5-1 Gift Of Gold, Three Angels, 6-1 One To Go, 12-1 Anka Lady, 16-1 Abstone Pet Girl, 20-1 others.

1996: SPANIARD'S MOUNT 9-0 R Mullen (7-2) M Tompkins 8 ran

FORM FOCUS: Culcraggie 1½l 4th to Sel Tiall in 7f Ayr maiden (soft). Gift Of Gold 9¾l 9th to Stick As A Parrot in 1m Yarmouth nursery (good) One To Go 7¼l 4th to Blundell Lane in 6f Redcar nursery (good to firm). Three Angels 1¾l 2nd to First Master in 7f Folkestone maiden auction (good). Anka Lady 11l 4th to Court Lane in 6f Ayr maiden (soft). Chocolate Box 3l 3rd to Only In Dreams in 7f Leicester maiden (soft). Minster Moorgate, Minster Son filly, out of Find The Sun.

THREE ANGELS was unlucky not to win at Folkestone having raced very wide

4.00 LADBROKE ON-COURSE HANDICAP
(Div II: £3,116: 1m) (14 runners)

1 (12) 0610023 ALPINE HIDEAWAY 9 (D,F) (Easterby Trainers) M W Easterby 4-9-13 .. G Parkin (3) 83
2 (7) 3503015 ZORBA 13 (G,S) (C Barber-Lomax) J Hetherton 3-9-6 .. G Duffield 85
3 (3) 2310650 NEEDLE MATCH 9 (F) (C Bigley Partnership Ltd) J J O'Neill 4-9-3 .. C Lowther (3) 79
4 (14) 1000004 DISPOL GEM 15 (D,F,G) (W Imbson) P Calver 4-9-2 .. K Darley 86
5 (10) 1002160 SHONTAINE 9 (D,F,G) (P Dean) M Johnston 4-9-2 .. D McKeown 81
6 (6) 1250306 TROJAN HERO 15 (CD,F,G) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-1 .. A Culhane 1-2f
7 (5) -000100 PINE RIDGE LAD 9 (D,F,G) (Whitestonecliffe Pins) J Eyre 7-9-1 .. R Lappin 80
8 (8) 5040500 KINGCHIP BOY 134 (V,D,F,G) (Four Jays Pow 2) M Ryan 8-8-13 .. P McCabe (3) 84
9 (13) 0003160 ANETTA 47 (D,F) (B McAllister) Miss S Hall 3-8-11 .. L Charnock 79
10 (11) -5050330 WINSTON 9 (D,G) (Mrs J Vickers) J Bethell 4-8-7 .. J Carroll 90
11 (9) 0652050 NIKAPEN ROCKS 3 (Lady Lilford) J H Wilson 4-8-6 .. R French (3) 90
12 (1) 2213506 PRINCIPAL BOY 38 (D,G,S) (C Morenos) T Etherington 4-8-4 .. Dale Gibson 90
13 (4) -36002 GLEN OGIL 6 (W Hamilton-Attard) M Channon 3-7-13 .. A Mackay 83
14 (2) 0000104 LUNCH PARTY 8 (D,F,G) (S Attkins) D Nicholls 5-7-13 .. Iona Wands (5) 87

BETTING: 5-1 Alpine Hideaway, 6-1 Trojan Hero, 7-1 Glen Ogil, 8-1 Zorba, Shontaine, 10-1 Needle Match, Winston, Lunch Party, 12-1 others.

1996: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS: Alpine Hideaway ¾l 3rd to Saalbach in 1m Redcar handicap (good to firm) with Shontaine (levels) 4¾l 10th. Needle Match (levels) 5¼l 12th. Winston (levels) 6l 14th and Pine Ridge Lad (levels) 8½l 17th. Zorba 1¼l 5th to American Whisper in 1¼m Doncaster handicap (good). Dispol Gem 6l 4th to On The Green in 1m Newcastle claiming handicap (good to firm) with Trojan Hero (1lb worse off) 6¼l 6th. Kingchip Boy 8¼l 8th to Purchasing Power in 7f Epsom handicap (good to soft). Principal Boy 6¾l 6th of 16 to Shontaine (5lb worse off) in 1m Hamilton handicap (good). Glen Ogil ¾l 2nd to Tipperary Sunset in 1m1f Newmarket apprentice handicap (good to firm) Lunch Party 2¾l 4th to Speedy Classic in 7f Yarmouth handicap (firm).

TROJAN HERO can finally come good having been given a chance by the handicapper

TOWCESTER

THUNDERER

1.20 Touch Silver. 1.50 Flying Gunner. 2.20 Zaisan. 2.50 Kadastrof. 3.20 Oi Mother. 3.50 Jefferies. 4.20 Quistaquay.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS

1.20 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER SELLING HURDLE
(£1,811: 2m) (10 runners)

1 2344 TOUCH SILVER 26 (D,S) H Manners 7-11-12 .. A Dowling (7) 99
2 2P06 MY HARVINGS42 15 (F,G) T J Jones 7-11-5 .. Miss E J Jones (7) 80
3 513- LIMOSA 437 (F) Mrs L Richards 6-11-0 .. J A McCarthy –
4 0 DINO'S MISTRAL 159 K Morgan 4-10-12 .. A S Smith –
5 3/03 ERICOLM 7 (D,F,G,S) Miss A Stokell 7-10-12 .. Ann Stokell –
6 06-P KRASNIC 12 (B) Mrs D Haine 4-10-12 .. D Bridgwater –
7 /5-5 PHROSE 26 (D,S) C Jones 7-10-12 .. L Soteriou (7) 77
8 5023 SALS LEGEND 38 (BF) Miss Z Davison 6-10-12 .. A P McCoy 84
9 ZAHAALE 45F J Pickering 5-10-12 .. W Marston –
10 4242 MARGI BOO 10 M Sheppard 4-10-7 .. R Johnson 98

3-1 Sails Legend, 7-2 Margi Boo, 5-1 Touch Silver, Ericolm, 6-1 Limosa, 12-1 My Harvings, 16-1 Krasnic, Phrose, 25-1 others.

1.50 TIFFIELD HANDICAP CHASE (£3,673: 3m 1f) (9)

1 U21- LITTLE MARTINA 208 (F,S) D Grissell 9-11-10 J R Kavanagh 121
2 215- FLYING GUNNER 215 (S) T Nicholson 6-11-7 .. A Maguire –
3 4-F3 FUNCHEON GALE 10 (C,F,G,S) R Curtis 10-11-4 .. O Morris 106
4 101- COVERDALE LANE 222 (D,S) Mrs S Smith 10-11-3 R Guest 106
5 423- ROBSAND 239 G Balding 8-10-13 .. B Clifford 129
6 513- FORTUNES COURSE 30F (F,G,S) J King 8-10-11 T J Murphy 126
7 1-41 THE WHOLE HOG 10 (CD,F) A Bailey 8-10-5 (Sex) N Williamson 127
8 P-61 SNOW BOARD 10 (B,C,F,S) Mrs M Jones 8-10-3 (Sex) D Byrne –
9 042- SHAMARPHIL 237 (F,S) R Atter 11-10-0 .. Miss S Barraclough 111

11-4 Flying Gunner, 7-2 The Whole Hog, 9-2 Little Martina, 7-1 Funcheon Gale, Coverdale Lane, Snow Board, 8-1 Robsand, Fortunes Course, 12-1 Shamarphil

2.20 LAMBERT SMITH HAMPTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,233: 2m) (7)

1 005- ZAISAN 229 J Gifford 4-11-10 .. P Hide 79
2 /U3/ STAR MANAGER 13F (BF) P Cole 7-11-8 .. J Quinlan –
3 4-36 SAPPHIRE SON 7 P Cole 5-11-5 .. B Fenton 84
4 30-3 HOLIDAM BAY 13 (B) L Wordingham 5-11-5 X Aizpuru (5) 80
5 6UP- MYSTIC COURT 245 A Turnell 6-11-0 .. C Rae (7) –
6 P-00 BRANDON BRIDGE 20 D Goraghy 8-10-11 .. R Supple 77
7 -00U INCHYDONEY BOY 73 Miss Z Davison 8-10-8 .. O Morris 76

11-10 Star Manager, 4-1 Zaisan, 5-1 Holidam Bay, 7-1 Sapphire Son, 12-1 Inchydoney Boy, 14-1 Mystic Court, 25-1 Brandon Bridge

2.50 IRISH R M NOVICES CHASE (£2,864: 2m) (9)

1 1S3- ABSOLUTE LIMIT 191 (BF,F) J Gifford 5-11-3 .. L Aspell (3) –
2 604- BARTON SCAMP 218 D Wilkens 5-11-3 .. Mr S Durack (7) –
3 530- DANBYS GORSE 196 (D,S) J Jefferson 5-11-3 E Callaghan (3) –
4 604- KADASTROF 22F (D,G,S) R Dickin 7-11-3 .. A P McCoy –
5 6F-3 NORDANSK 28 (D,F,S) M Madgwick 8-11-3 .. B Fenton –
6 03-3 ROVESTAR 8 (D,G) C Popham 6-11-3 .. M A Fitzgerald –
7 120- ROYAL EVENT 202 (D,F,S) D Gandolfo 6-11-3 .. A Magnier –
8 FPJ3 TENNESSEE KING 18 (D,S) A Foster 7-11-3 .. DOUBTFUL 122
9 325- WILDE MUSIC 225 (D,F) C Brooks 7-11-3 .. J Quinlan 106

5-2 Wilde Music, 7-2 Kadastrof, 4-1 Royal Event, 9-2 Absolute Limit, 8-1 Rovestar, 10-1 Danbys Gorse, 12-1 Nordansk, 25-1 others

3.20 HOWARD SMITH PAPER MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I: £1,900: 2m) (10)

1 501- ARDROM 248 (D,F) P R Webber 5-10-7 .. J Osborne –
2 S BRAVE FRIEND 12 C M Hales 5-10-7 .. V Slattery –
3 05-3 DERRING R LOSS 29 Miss J Wormall 7-10-7 .. X Aizpuru (5) 95
4 55-2 HURRICANE JANE 16 M J Roberts 5-10-7 .. P Henley (3) 98
5 3/P LADY KAY-LEE 29 M Campion 7-10-7 .. W McFarland –
6 00 LASTOFTHESLAKENEYS 14 T McGovern 4-10-7 M A Fitzgerald –
7 /0-6 LOTSCHBERG EXPRESS 26 D Gandolfo 5-10-7 .. Sophie Mitchell (5) –
8 42-1 OI MOTHER 152 (D,G) D Nicholson 5-10-7 .. A Maguire –
9 0F- SISSINGHURST FLYER 194 R Dickin 5-10-7 .. J Culloty –
10 0-0 THE LADY SCORES 17 K Bailey 5-10-7 .. N Williamson –

11-8 Oi Mother, 11-4 Ardrom, 7-1 Hurricane Jane, 8-1 Lotschberg Express, 10-1 The Lady Scores, 12-1 Derring Floss, 20-1 Sissinghurst Flyer, 25-1 others.

3.50 WICKEN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,912: 2m 5f) (10)

1 1132 JAMAICAN FLIGHT 10 (C,F,G,S) Mrs S Lamyman 4-11-13 .. N Williamson 120
2 311- SPENDIO 272 (C,G,S) D N

هكذا من الاصل

CRICKET

Wasim's election helps Lancashire back on even keel

By Michael Henderson

ONE might expect Jack Simmons, the new chairman of Lancashire, to be an agitated man. The club has lost, in quick succession and for different reasons, a chief executive, a treasurer and a captain, as well as Bob Bennett, the outgoing chairman. Yesterday, however, Simmons was in spring-like mood as he surveyed the path ahead.

He was speaking after the club had decided on Tuesday night that Wasim Akram, the Pakistan all-rounder, should succeed Mike Watkinson as captain: Wasim, 31, missed the whole of last summer with a shoulder injury that required surgery, and has only recently returned to cricket, regaining the captaincy of his country before the three-Test home series against West Indies that begins in Peshawar on November 17.

Wasim has a lot on his plate next year, when he takes a benefit at Old Trafford, where he first appeared as a Lancashire player in 1988. But Simmons is not worried by Wasim's fitness record. "He reckons he has had no problems bowling at full pace, and has had no reaction to his shoulder injury at all," Simmons said.

"According to Waz, he's three or four weeks ahead of the specialist's schedule. Captaining Pakistan may help to reduce his burden because he's not going to hammer himself. With the bowlers they've got, he doesn't have to do it all by himself anyway."

Wasim, Simmons said, was the obvious choice as Lancashire captain. "When he led the team two years ago, we won all five games under him. When I spoke to him before the committee meeting on Tuesday, and asked him if he would be prepared to do the job, he said it would be a great honour. You expect somebody to say that, I know, but he sounded sincere."

With John Crawley acting as vice-captain, and the vacant honorary and adminstrative posts all filled, Old Trafford is a happier place these days. Mind you, as the less charitable might observe, that is because there is no cricket being played.

Wasim: honoured

Simmons, clearly, is determined that there will be no slacking when the game is resumed, and stated that Lancashire intended to rely on their own young players to put things right.

Speaking warmly of Andrew Flintoff, who tours this winter with the England A team, Nathan Wood, Richard Green and Mark Chilton, he said that Lancashire would not be importing talent from other counties, which has become an ever more popular winter pastime. "We want to leave the avenue open to our own youngsters," he said.

There was also good news this week of Glen Chapple, the promising pace bowler who rose to prominence when he took six for 18 against Essex in the NatWest Trophy final last year.

Chapple's career has not advanced since then, disturbed by an injury that was initially thought to be of the groin and was finally diagnosed as a double hernia, for which he had an operation earlier this week.

"We wondered what was going on," Simmons said. "Here he was, a talented young lad, and he couldn't put the ball in the right place, and people thought he didn't care about what he was doing.

"All along he had been told it was a groin strain, and that's what Laurie Brown, our physiotherapist, was led to believe."

As Lancashire prepare to welcome back a fully-fit Chapple, not to mention a rejuvenated Wasim, they acknowledge that Jason Gallian will leave, probably to join Nottinghamshire, where the captaincy may become available within a year or two. Lancashire will contest his registration, as they have offered him a new contract, but Gallian is adamant that he wants away.

Record stand ends Pakistan's hopes

SANATH JAYASURIYA and Aravinda de Silva scored centuries as Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by eight wickets in the quadrangular one-day tournament in Lahore yesterday.

Jayasuriya hit a belligerent 134 not out and De Silva a masterly undefeated 102 as Sri Lanka passed Pakistan's 280 with ten overs to spare. The two put on a Sri Lankan record stand of 213 runs for any wicket.

They dashed Pakistan's hopes of reaching the final of the event, hosted to celebrate the golden jubilee of Pakistan's founding.

Sri Lanka qualified for the final, where they meet South Africa on November 8. Before that the teams meet in the last league match today. Pakistan's total had contributions of 94 from Ejaz Ahmed and 70 from Aamir Sohail.

The 28-year-old Jayasuriya hit 13 fours and three sixes in his 114-ball innings.

The Australian cricket authorities are facing heavy losses because of low ticket sales for the first Test against New Zealand, which starts in Brisbane tomorrow.

Fewer than 2,500 tickets have been pre-sold for the opening three days.

Lord's in debt to lady's expertise

A new column on the impact women administrators and players are making in sport

SARAH POTTER

Medha Laud is not officially allowed to walk through the willow and walnut of the Long Room at Lord's, but from the glass and concrete of her office, discreetly tucked away at the Nursery End of the ground, she makes sure that the England men's cricket team is in the right place at the right time.

Employed by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) as international teams administrator, Laud, 37, plans the winter moves of players with an attention to detail of which any sporting tactician would be proud. Imminent tours to Sharjah, Kenya, Sri Lanka and the West Indies would extend any administrator, even without the political unrest causing concern in Colombo. What makes Laud so pivotal to the set-up is that England's finest, this week toiling for fitness in the Lanzarote sunshine, rely just as much on her troubleshooting and "people skills".

"I have moulded the job to the extent that it now reflects my personality," Laud said. "I like being heavily involved, working with people and following things through. Trust and respect are very important to me." She admits to feeling protective of the players and the enthusiasm that she radiates makes her popularity easy to understand.

"Medha is everybody's favourite," Michael Atherton, the captain, said. "All the organisational stuff that surrounds the England team, the travel and hotels, the equipment and sponsored kit we get, is dealt with by Medha. She's not just an administrator, more a personal assistant to all the players. You ring her up and she gets it sorted. We'd be totally lost without her."

Hardly surprising, then, that many eyebrows were raised when the ECB appointed Simon Pack, 53, to the new post of international teams director last month. "Initially it wasn't explained properly so I'd be lying if I said I wasn't concerned," Laud said, "but the board were looking for a non-cricketing person with skills in management and development. He will have overall responsibility for the department and will ensure an even tighter structure."

Pack's military background will not necessarily mean more blindfold drives in Land Rovers for the players, but it should enable Laud to see a clearer path through her paperwork. Atherton may have hastened the change. "I spoke to Ian MacLaurin [the chairman of the ECB] in the summer to say that Medha is an integral part of our team and that she seemed to have a very heavy workload," he said. "I wanted her to have some help without diminishing her role."

Such loyalty has been earned through a disciplined and determined work ethic. Born in India, Laud came to England as a young child. After graduating from Cambridge College of Arts with a degree in history, she wanted to be a sports journalist, but a job at the Oval during the summer of 1983 revealed not just her administrative talents but her passion for the game.

She was Micky Stewart's personal assistant before he became the first England manager and has been based at Lord's for three years. Laud was the first to be employed in this job and modestly claims that much of the planning necessary for an England tour is now "routine".

Nonetheless, things can go wrong. A tour to the West Indies in 1990 began badly when Rob Bailey's baggage went missing. Peter Lush, then the manager, phoned Laud in a panic. "He said they needed replacement kit within 48 hours," she said. "Instantly I was phoning all the suppliers. I got a duplicate set and British Airways got them on the next flight." Players forgetting to have inoculations or, worse, to bring their passports, are potential calamities that she now takes in her stride.

Only recently has the ECB introduced an element of travel into Laud's job. She checked the facilities in Lanzarote and flew to Barbados earlier in the summer in preparation for the players' arrival with their families in March. "We know what our requirements are," she said. "This is our team and we know how we want them to be looked after."

She believes that English cricket is in the process of rejuvenation and her brown-eyed sparkle is persuasive. "There's something in the air, a will to get things exactly how they should be," she said. "Ian MacLaurin has been great. He's taken the time and effort to get to know the players and listen to what they have to say. He appreciates different personalities and the players respect him. I hope he stays."

"In all the talk of 'Team England', it really begins and ends with Medha," David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, said. "The whole thing would fall apart without her. It's probably only now that people have begun to realise how much she does." Laud is the England team's best-kept secret.

SIMON WALKER

Laud's role as troubleshooter has earned her widespread praise and admiration

SQUASH: QUALIFIER BOUNCES BACK WITH VICTORY OVER EIGHTH SEED

Marshall revives England's hopes

From Colin McQuillan in Kuala Lumpur

THE British contingent in the last 16 of the world championship rose to eight here in Malaysia yesterday when Peter Marshall, who had to qualify for this event during his painstaking comeback from chronic fatigue syndrome, removed the No 8 seed, Brett Martin, of Australia, 15-10, 11-15, 15-13, 11-15, 15-12 in 90 minutes.

It was a result of some significance to the 26-year-old from Nottingham. Marshall endured embarrassing defeats in his two previous meetings this year with the stylish 33-year-old from Brisbane, but here showed a calmer resolve and a commendable endurance to seize his opportunity from 12-12 in the fifth game.

Martin, usually the most relaxed of competitors, betrayed his tension in an event laid open by the absence of the Pakistani, Jansher Khan, eight times a winner of the title. The Australian contributed 38 unforced errors to Marshall's cause, nearly one third of all the points scored by both players in the exhausting hour and a half they were on court.

The subsequent failure of Del Harris to justify his seeding at No 7 by losing 15-13, 17-14, 9-15, 15-12 to the mobile Canadian, Graham Ryding, improved Marshall's prospects here. He has risen from 42 to 26 in the new PSA world ranking list, and is likely to be upgraded to second string when the England squad begins its defence of the world team title here next week.

If Marshall can succeed again today against Dan Jenson, of Australia, the No 10 seed, he could advance a claim to be listed ahead of Harris and perhaps even the England captain, Chris Walker, whose recent history has been chequered, to take on the chore of facing Martin, the Australian second string, in the team event.

Jenson, who himself has just returned from three months out of the game with a stress fracture of the foot, eliminated one of the England qualifiers, Tim Garner, in a hard-fought match lasting 68 minutes. The tall 22-year-old regarded that as his comeback breakthrough, but it may have left him more tired than Marshall.

Simon Parke, the England No 1, and Walker were among the other seven Britons who advanced from the first-round session on Tuesday. Another English qualifier, Nick Taylor, went out to Anthony Hill, of Australia, in straight games.

Hill faces Ryding today, while the top seed, Rodney Eyles, and the No 3, Jonathon Power, play two more qualifiers in Craig Wapnick and Anjad Khan, a nephew of Jansher. Eyles needed just 26 minutes to overcome Amir Wagih, of Egypt, 15-10, 15-11, 15-5 in the first round yesterday, despite being put under pressure in the first two games.

In the bottom half of the draw, Simon Parke plays the British champion, Mark Cairns, today, and Walker meets the Welshman, Alex Gough. Mark Chaloner plays the fifth seed, Ahmed Barada, and Peter Nicol, the Scot seeded No 2, takes on the young Welsh champion, David Evans, the fourth qualifier to have reached the last 16.

Marshall: enduring

Harris: overcome

Results, page 43

NEWS SPORT WHAT'S ON FUN KNOWLEDGE MONEY SHOPPING TALK INTERNET

not a bean

not a sausage

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BOWLS

Canada give England run for their money

UNSUNG Canada went marching on in the Manulife Hong Kong International Classic pairs tournament here in Kowloon yesterday, winning both their games, and finishing the day level with England on points at the top of the section B league table, but in second place on shots countback (David Rhys Jones writes).

Jim Aitken and Lyall Adams scored narrow wins over strong local teams representing the Hong Kong Lawn Bowling Association and the Hong Kong Correctional Services Department, 16-15 and 23-16 respectively.

Andy Wills and Stuart Airey, of England, however, maintained their advantage with wins of 29-10 and 24-20 over Hong Kong Electric and Zimbabwe, and are on course to bring the classic title to England for the first time since the competition was first held in 1981.

Sadly, the world outdoor pairs champions, Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen, from Ireland, lost against Zimbabwe and Hong Kong Cricket Club, and appear almost certain to fail in their bid to reach the quarter-finals. However, Scotland and Wales are still in the frame.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No 004987 of 1997
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
Mr Registrar Buckley
IN THE MATTER OF J.D. COTTON & CO, trading as GMG Europe Limited
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by an Order dated 24th October 1997 the Court has directed separate meetings to be convened of (1) the creditors of the above-named Company (the "Company") as at 14th November 1997 whose claim would have been preferential under section 386 of the Insolvency Act 1986 had an Order for the winding up of the company been made on 14th November 1997 to the extent to which such debts would have been so preferential or is for an amount accrued or accruing due to the Company in respect of rent or the supply of water, gas, electrical energy or telephone service ("Preferential Creditors") and (2) the Company's creditors as at 14th November 1997 other than the Preferential Creditors, Green Mountain Geophysics Inc ("GMGUS") and Coherence Technology Company Inc ("CTC") ("General Creditors") for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving, with or without modification, Schemes of Arrangement proposed to be made between the company, GMGUS, CTC, the Preferential Creditors and the General Creditors and that such Meetings will be held at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD at the respective times below mentioned, namely:
(1) The Meeting of the Preferential Creditors at 10.00am on 21st November 1997
(2) the Meeting of the General Creditors at 11.00am on 21st November 1997 (or so soon thereafter as the Meeting of the Preferential Creditors shall have been concluded or adjourned),
at which place and respective times all the aforesaid Preferential Creditors and General Creditors are requested to attend. Any person entitled to attend the Meetings can obtain copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, forms of proxy and copies of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to section 426 of the above-mentioned Act at the registered branch office of the Company situate at 3 Champside Court, Buckhurst Road, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7SF and at the office of the undermentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meetings.
The said Preferential Creditors and General Creditors may vote in person at each of the Meetings as they are entitled to attend or they may appoint another person whether a member of the class or not as their proxy to attend and vote in their stead.
It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged with Gibson Hewitt & Co situate at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meetings but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman of the Meeting at which they are to be so used.
By the said Order the Court has appointed James Cotton or failing him Lynn Gibson or failing her Robert Hewitt to act as Chairman of each of the said Meetings and has directed the Chairman to report the results thereof to the Court.
The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.
Dated 31 October 1997
Nicholson Graham & Jones
110 Cannon Street
London EC4N 6AR
Tel: 0171 648 9000
Fax: 0171 648 9001
DX: LDE58
Ref: SERG 464-6

BARNET EMANUEL LIMITED
Registered number: 3059922.
Nature of business: Fruit and Vegetable Wholesalers. Trade classification: 12. Date of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 30 October 1997. Name of appointer: National Westminster Bank plc. Neville Barry Kahn and Stephen Paul Holgate, Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder nos 1186 and 7991) of Finsbury Court, London EC4A 4BT

COMPANY NUMBER 967336
NORTH ATLANTIC MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 27 October 1997 the above named company was placed in Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Paul Anthony Newton Evans of Price Waterhouse was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders.
The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 8 December 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
All known creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Date 4 November 1997
PAB Evans, Liquidator

Saltability Limited
t/a Runtons
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 12th November 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.
It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 31st October 1997
D.L. Newbery, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
MEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING OF CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 20th November 1997 at The Old Rectory, Lower Street Road, Royston, Herts at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that S G Taylor, MIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Chesterfield Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(b) of said Act who will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated this 3rd day of November 1997
By Order of the Board
D. Reynolds, Director

NOTICE OF 398 MEETING OF CREDITORS
SATELLITE MEDIA SERVICES LIMITED
Principal Trading Address: Lawford Heath Earth Station, Lawford Heath Lane, Lawford Heath, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9EU
Company Number: 02106697
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of creditors of the above-named company will be held at Stonecutter Street, London EC4A 4TR on 10 November 1997 at 2.30pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Deloitte & Touche of PO Box 810, Stonecutter Street, London EC4A 4TR during the two business days preceding the above meeting.
Dated: 27 October 1997
By Order of the Board
PATRICK TAYLOR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No 97 C 30231
CHANCERY DIVISION
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF COMPTON BUILDINGS LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 27 October 1997 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £20,000,000 divided into 20,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each to £1,674,100 divided into 1,674,100 ordinary shares of £1 each and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 3rd November 1997
Dated this 3rd day of November 1997
Gowling Waring of Knightsbridge House, Lower Brown Street, Leicester, LE1 5NL, Solicitors for the above named Company.

No: 004675 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF HAMPTON TRUST PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 15 October 1997 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £55,650,000 to £49,819,960 and the reduction of the share premium account of the Company by £5,948,677 and the minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 17 October 1997.
Dated: 4 November 1997
Gazette, Bank Buildings, 9 Charlotte Street, Manchester M1 4EU
Tel: 0161 228 0707
Fax: 0161 228 1926
Ref: TGHRJD
Solicitors for the above named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Broadcasting Standards Commission

On 3 October 1996 ITV broadcast a programme in Carlton's current affairs series The Big Story which looked at whether there was a link between measles vaccinations and Crohn's disease, as had been suggested by Dr Andrew Wakefield. Dr Wakefield and Professor Anders Ekbom, a Swedish medical researcher who had been interviewed for the programme, complained to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission (now the Broadcasting Standards Commission) that the programme had been unjust and unfair to them.

Dr Wakefield complained that the programme unfairly implied that he was alone in his views. Professor Ekbom complained that an important part of one of his answers had ben unfairly edited, giving the misleading impression that, unlike Dr Wakefield, he thought there was unlikely to be any connection between measles and Crohn's disease.

The Commission considered the programme as a whole a responsible investigation into a matter of public interest. However, while the Commission recognised that the programme-makers found difficulties in editing an interview with a Swedish expert for whom English was not his first language, it considered that by editing out Professor Ekbom's opinion that measles was a "suspect agent" in the development of Crohn's, the programme gave a misleading impression of his views. In this one respect the Commission found unfairness.

The complaint was therefore upheld in part.

You can get a copy of the full adjudication by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Broadcasting Standards Commission, 7 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3JS.

Blackburn Philanthropic Mutual Assurance Society
49-51 Preston New Road, Blackburn, Lancashire BB2 6AE
NOTICE TO MEMBERS
A special General Meeting of all members of the Society will be held at the Registered Office, 49-51 Preston Road, Blackburn, on Thursday 20th November 1997 at 7pm.
Business
To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution:
1. That, to confirm to the Friendly Societies Act 1974 and the Friendly Societies Act 1992, the Society adopt the the completely revised Rule Book, a copy of which is on display at the registered office of the Society.
A copy of the revised Rule Book will be sent to any member on written request.
A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his or her place and may direct a proxy how to vote at the meeting. Proxy forms are available from the Chief Executive/Secretary of the Society on request and any appointment of proxy must be received at the Registered office at least 48 hours before the time of the Special General Meeting.
By order of the Committee
J H Geddes
Chief Executive/Secretary

ATHLETICS

Dick ready to resume coach's role

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

FRANK DICK, head coach during the most successful period British athletics has known, said yesterday that he would be willing to return as successor to Malcolm Arnold, who is to take up a post at the University of Bath in January.

Dick's services would not come cheaply, and there would be some opposition to re-engaging him, but it is hard to think of a better candidate if, in the restructuring of British athletics, a direct replacement is required.

Dick resigned as the British Athletic Federation (BAF) director of coaching in March 1994, citing grievances over his budget and £37,000 salary. Arnold stepped in and was more recently given the title of performance director. Against a background of financial hardship at the federation, he is leaving, weary of the burden placed upon him.

Arnold was at the helm last summer when the Great Britain men's team won the European Cup for the first time in eight years, and he has been instrumental in setting up the programme through which elite athletes receive National Lottery funding but he said yesterday: "In the last 12 months I have found life exceedingly difficult.

"I have been asked to do half-a-dozen jobs at once and it is not in my nature to give 20 per cent to four or five jobs. I like to give 100 per cent to one. It has been incredibly frustrating."

The federation went into administration last month, facing a deficit of £530,000, and made three-quarters of its staff redundant this week. At Bath, Arnold will be responsible for developing talent from schools and clubs, and for an elite group, including Colin Jackson, the 110 metres hurdles world record-holder.

"It is a different way of serving British athletics," Arnold added. "My own group of athletes will relocate there. It has always been my intention to retire, not too long after the year 2000 or 2001. In the three or four years I have remaining, I want to do what I consider I am best at, which is coaching athletes and supporting coaches, not sitting behind a desk."

Arnold, who will remain as a consultant, believes that the elite performance plan he has set up at the BAF will provide a springboard to future success. British athletics, at global level, has lost its spring in the last two years. Britain does not possess a world or Olympic champion.

By beating a path to a university, Arnold is following Peter Radford, who resigned as BAF executive chairman for a position at Brunel. It was with Radford that Dick fell out, leading to his resignation from a job he had held for 15 years. He warned, as he went, that the high standards Britain had become used to were in danger of falling.

Not only has Radford gone, but so many departures have there been from the federation lately that few past differences should stand in the way of his return. Dick, president of the European Coaches Association, now works in the field of presentations to show how the coaching culture can be applied to industry.

Asked whether he would be interested in returning as head British coach, he said: "Obviously, very interested, but it would depend on conditions and what you would, or would not, be allowed to do.

"I do not think ... the budget would be available to replace what I am earning but, yes, I am interested." However, the performance director's job is outside the BAF cash crisis, part of the "ring-fenced" World Class Performance programme funded by the Lottery. For the right man, the money must be found.

David Moorcroft, the BAF chief executive, said that the sport would need to be sure of its new structure before considering a replacement. Options, he said, might be replacing "like with like" — with another performance director — or with a "performance directorate", consisting of the four technical directors of coaching.

No need to take any tactical flyers

Paul Standbridge assesses the challenge as Toshiba's skipper

Last Tuesday night I was approached by Team Dennis Conner and asked if I would be interested in the position of skipper on my Whitbread 60, *Toshiba*, should it become available. By 7.30 Wednesday morning I was confirmed in the job and our shore manager, Mick Harvey, was first to arrive at my apartment in Cape Town to congratulate me.

Chris Dickson's departure from *Toshiba* was due to a disagreement between him and Team Dennis Conner. It's a great loss for any racing yacht to lose its skipper, especially one as highly qualified as Dickson. However, now is the time for regrouping and pulling the campaign back together, as we prepare for the restart on Saturday and the 4,600-mile Southern Ocean leg from Cape Town to Fremantle, Australia.

Having given up efforts more than a year ago to do my own British campaign, I never thought I would end up as skipper of a boat in this race. It is a challenge that I look forward to with great excitement. *Toshiba* is a well-prepared yacht and I am working with one of the finest ocean-racing crews I have sailed with. I have the utmost confidence in our navigator and meteorologist, Andrew Cape, and in my watch captains, Ross Macdonald — a talented former Star class world champion who sails as my No 2 — and Steve Cotton, who sailed on *Yamaha* in the last Whitbread.

We are racing in a fleet of highly-qualified and experienced skippers, particularly at the front end with the likes of Paul Cayard, Grant Dalton and Lawrie Smith vying for the top places. All of them are going to be very hard to beat, but I am not going to try and do it single-handedly. I am leading a team effort.

After our disappointing first leg (when I struggled for much of the time with a debilitating abscess on my tongue), *Toshiba* now starts in sixth place. But this is not going to change our tactics on the way to Fremantle. There is no need to take any tactical flyers. We will try to sail a conservative leg, covering the fleet when possible and not getting separated from the centre of the action.

Since we arrived in Cape Town we have been upgrading *Toshiba's* sail inventory into a more Southern Ocean-orientated configuration to cope with the predicted hard reaching and running conditions we hope to encounter. *Toshiba* is already the fastest recorded Whitbread 60 over a 24-hour period with a best day's run of 434 miles at an average speed of 18 knots. I know the rest of the fleet are capable of these speeds and we will be trying hard to defend this title.

This second leg takes us into iceberg country. Although it is easy to sound brave about this on dry land with the Cape sun warming our backs, this is a scary prospect when you think of night-time sailing at speeds in excess of 25 knots with lumps of ice floating around and a constant danger of collision. My biggest concern in these conditions will be for the well-being of *Toshiba* and the crew. We will become a very safety-conscious boat and I will be strict on the use of safety harnesses.

Over the last two weeks we have had the boat out and the mast unstepped but, apart from sails and routine maintenance, we have made few changes during this stopover, though I am bringing in two new crew members for the leg, New Zealanders Jeff Scott and Chris Ward. I will be sad to leave Cape Town on Saturday but it will be with great excitement that I take the helm of *Toshiba* when we head out of Table Bay. She is potentially one of the top boats in this Whitbread.

STEPHEN MUNDAY / ALLSPORT

Standbridge, at the helm for the first time as skipper of *Toshiba*, makes a point to a crew member

SPORT IN BRIEF

White finds winning ways again

■ **SNOOKER:** Jimmy White maintained his recent resurgence with an impressive 5-2 victory over Wayne Brown, of St Helens, to reach the last 16 of the Benson and Hedges Championship in Malvern yesterday, but Dominic Dale, the Grand Prix champion, was eliminated (Phil Yates writes).

White, in search of his first tournament win since June 1993, highlighted another encouraging performance with breaks of 100 in the fifth frame and 118 in the seventh. He now plays David Gray.

Dale, who unexpectedly defeated White in the semi-finals of the Grand Prix 12 days ago, led Graeme Dott, of Scotland, 3-2, but lost the following three frames as Dott finished strongly with runs of 88, 58 and a 135 total clearance. Brian Morgan, the title-holder from Essex, was also defeated 5-4 by Quinten Hann, 20, of Australia, after establishing a 4-2 lead.

Giant recruit

■ **BASKETBALL: Manchester Giants yesterday completed the signing of Brian Rowsom, the 6ft 10in former NBA centre, who spent 2½ seasons with the Charlotte Hornets and Indiana Pacers. The Giants have released Jabaar Jones to make room for Rowsom.**

Dukes on hold

■ **SPEEDWAY:** Bradford Dukes, winners of the Elite League title, are to shut down for two years while Odsal Stadium, also home of Bradford Bulls rugby league club, and site of a proposed £200 million superdome project, is rebuilt.

Gadal's task

■ **TABLE TENNIS: Michel Gadal, 44, from France, one of the world's leading coaches, was yesterday appointed the performance director of the English Table Tennis Association.**

HOCKEY: ADVENTUROUS EGYPT SLIP TO SECOND DEFEAT IN FIVE-MATCH SERIES

Giles keeps England in command

Egypt 2
England 3

From Sydney Friskin in Cairo

ENGLAND gained a hard-earned victory over Egypt here last night to take a 2-0 lead in the five-match series that ends on Sunday. Egypt raised their game to provide an exciting finish with a late goal and came close to an equaliser in the last minute, when they were awarded a short corner.

England, however, had earlier added to their 2-1 half-time lead with a goal by Garcia in the 54th minute.

It was another successful day for Giles, who scored the first two goals as a substitute but had no luck during his spell of open play, which lasted for 23 minutes.

The Egyptians reduced the lead in the 67th minute, with a well-taken goal by Mahmoud Samir.

England had got away to an excellent start with a goal in the fourth minute by Giles from a short corner earned by Hall. Egypt retaliated two minutes later by forcing a short corner, which came to nothing. However, they exercised better control with the next short corner in the thirteenth minute and Mohamed Samir converted a well-placed shot.

Egypt's joy was short-lived, for Giles appeared on the scene again to convert another short corner in the 24th minute. Three minutes later, he was liberated from the bench to join England's attack. He was instrumental in earning another short corner, but this time the Egyptian defence was more vigilant.

EGYPT: Hatem Gamal, Sayd Musa, Amro Fatah, Yaser Moneim, Ahmed Hamouda, Abdel Khalek, Mohamed Yaser, Emad Amin, Mohamed Samir, Mohamed Sayed, Ahmad Said. Substitutes used: Belal Ibrahim, Hassam Hassan, Mahmoud Samir

ENGLAND: D Luckes; A Humphrey, J Helts, J Wyatt, W Waugh (captain), D Woods, J Pidcock, A Simons, B Sharpe, R Garcia, D Hall. Substitutes used: C Meyer, C Giles, Manpreet Kocher, B Barnes.

☐ The Pakistan Hockey Federation, in an attempt to raise the falling standard of the national team, has appointed the former Olympian and captain, Islahuddin, as manager and Ayaz Mahmood as coach.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Toronto 104 Golden State 88; Atlanta 82 Detroit 71; Cleveland 80 Indiana 77; New York 102 Boston 70; Seattle 118 Houston 94; Dallas 92 Vancouver 87, Milwaukee 110 Orlando 76; Washington 130 Denver 96; Phoenix 108 Utah 84; Portland 122 Minnesota 105, LA Lakers 101 Sacramento 98.
EUROPEAN CUP: Group E: London Towers 69 Hapoel Eilat (Isr) 78.

BOWLS

KOWLOON: Manulife Hong Kong International Pairs Classic: Sixth round: Section A: Australia (A Jeffrey and M Jacobsen) bt Scotland (D Gourlay and G Robertson) 21-15; Channel Islands (F Hambly and D LeMarquand) bt Craigengower Cricket Club (W Lai and T Chok) 25-14; Indian Recreation Club (S A K Bua and J Wassan) bt Hong Kong (T Tong and J Wong) 20-18; Wales (W Matthews and J Hoskins) bt China Light and Power (S K Chung and A Chu) 37-6, Victoria Park (W S Chan and R Tse) bt Malaysia (A Badun and Z Puteh) 22-20; South Africa (G Baker and N Burkett) bt Kowloon Cricket club (J Melbourne and K Walks) 42-11. Section B: Kowloon Bowling Club (A Carslaws and N Kennedy) bt Hong Kong Correctional Services Department (Tsang Thung Pu and Lo Shu Wing) 29-8; England (A Wills and S Airey) bt Hong Kong Electric (K Kadir and Ching Kwong Cheung) 29-10; Zimbabwe (M McCormick and W Cumming) bt Ireland (J Henry and S Allen) 18-13; Hong Kong Cricket Club (R Barnett and A Robertson) bt Hong Kong Police (D Ng and K K Young) 20-14; Hong Kong Football Club (G Chan and D Cheung) bt New Zealand (B Baldwin and B McNish) 21-16 Canada (J Aitken and L Adams) bt Hong Kong Lawn Bowling Association (A Poynton and W McMahon) 16-15. Seventh round: Section A: Malaysia bt ELP 21-15, Hong Kong bt CCC 26-15, Wales bt KCT 27-21; Scotland bt IRC 41-13; Channel Islands bt Australia 23-18, South Africa bt Victoria Park 28-8. Section B: KBT bt HKFC 22-15; HKP bt HK Electric 31-8; HKCC bt Ireland 19-18; Canada bt HKCSD 23-16, New Zealand bt HKLBA 21-18, England bt Zimbabwe 24-20. League positions after seven rounds: Section A: 1, South Africa 12pts, 2, Scotland 10; 3, Wales 10, 4, Australia 10; 5, Hong Kong 8; 6, Channel Islands 8; 7, KCT 8; 8 Victoria Park 6, 9, IRT 6; 10, CCC 2; 11, Malaysia 2; 12, CLP 2. Section B: 1, England 12; 2, Canada 12; 3, HKLBA 10; 4, NZ 10, 5, KBC 10, 6, Zimbabwe 8; 7, Ireland 6 8, HKCC 6 9, HKP 4; 10, HKFC 2, 11, HKCSD 2; 12, HK Electric 2.
BELFAST: World indoor singles championship: Play-offs: Quarter-finals: J Baker (Co Antrim) bt I McClure (Coleraine) 7-3, 7-1, N Graham (Hillsborough) bt P Daly (Belfast) 4-7, 7-6, 7-0; G McCloy (Coleraine) bt D Corkin (Belfast) 4-7, 7-4, 7-2; J R Nicholl (Ballymena) bt M McPeek (Belfast) 7-6, 1-7, 7-6. Semi-finals: Baker bt Graham 7-6, 7-3; McCloy bt Nicholl 7-6, 1-7, 7-3. Final: McCloy bt Baker 7-0, 7-6.

CRICKET

Pakistan Golden Jubilee tournament

Pakistan v Sri Lanka

LAHORE (Sri Lanka won toss). Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by eight wickets

PAKISTAN

Shahid Afridi b Vaas 39
Saeed Anwar c Ranatunga b Vaas 26
Aamir Sohail c and b Muralitharan 70
Ijaz Ahmed c sub b S C de Silva 94
Inzamam-ul-Haq c P A de Silva b Jayasuriya 8
*Wasim Akram c L de Silva b Muralitharan 6
Moin Khan run out 10
Azhar Mahmood c L de Silva b S C de Silva 15
†Rashid Latif c L de Silva b Vaas 1
Waqar Younis b S C de Silva 1
Saqlain Mushtaq not out 1
Extras (lb 6, w 3) 9
Total (49.4 overs) 280

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-66, 2-73, 3-195, 4-205, 5-214, 6-234, 7-269, 8-278, 9-278.
BOWLING: Vaas 10-0-59-3; S C de Silva 9.4-1-58-3; Dharmasena 10-1-41-0; Muralitharan 10-0-37-2; Jayasuriya 8-0-54-1; P A de Silva 4-0-25-0.

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya not out 134
M S Atapattu run out 23
R S Mahanama c Aamir b Azhar 0
P A de Silva not out 102
Extras (lb 8, w 13, nb 3) 22
Total (2 wkts, 40 overs) 281

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-68.
†H P Tillekeratne, *A Ranatunga, L de Silva, H D P K Dharmasena, W P U J C Vaas, M Muralitharan and S C de Silva did not bat.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 8-0-44-0; Waqar Younis 8-0-49-0; Saqlain Mushtaq 8-0-55-0; Azhar Mahmood 8-0-53-1; Aamir Sohail 5-0-32-0; Shahid Afridi 5-0-42-0
Man of the match: S T Jayasuriya.
Umpires: S Dunn (New Zealand) and I Robinson (Zimbabwe).

	P	W	L	NR	Pts
South Africa	2	2	0	0	4
Sri Lanka	2	2	0	0	4
West Indies	3	0	3	0	0
Pakistan	3	1	2	0	2

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (N-L): Los Angeles 3 New Jersey 0; Washington 2 Vancouver 1; San Jose 0 Toronto 0 (OT).
SUPERLEAGUE: Nottingham Panthers 9 Bracknell Bees 3.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Noel Bruce Cup: Semi-finals: Wellington I (T Sawrey-Cookson and T Cockroft) bt Halleybury I (R Wakely and R Walker) 11-15, 11-15, 15-11, 15-4, 15-7; Eton I (W Boone and A Smith-Bingham) bt Tonbridge I (R Owen-Browne and K Walker) 11-15, 15-6, 15-1, 18-13, 15-8.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University 36 Saracens 25.

SQUASH

KUALA LUMPUR: ASCM-Sharp World championship: First round: R Eyles (Aus) bt A Wagih (Egypt) 15-10, 15-11, 15-5; C Wegnick (SA) bt Zubair Jahan (Pak) 17-15, 15-7, 15-10; G Ryding (Can) bt D Harris (Eng) 15-13, 17-14, 9-15, 15-12; A Hill (Aus) bt N Taylor (Eng) 15-7, 15-10, 15-10; J Power (Can) bt J Bonetat (Fr) 15-8, 15-11, 15-4; Anjad Khan (Pak) bt D Ryan (Ire) 9-15, 12-15, 15-10, 15-10, 15-12; P Marshall (Eng) bt B Marin (Aus) 15-10, 11-15, 15-13, 11-15, 15-12; D Jenson (Aus) bt T Garner (Eng) 13-15, 8-15, 15-9, 15-13, 15-12.

TENNIS

STOCKHOLM: Stockholm Open: First round: B Becker (Ger) bt C Moyá (Sp) 6-4, 6-3, J Siemerink (Holl) bt F Bergh (Swe) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3; P Rafter (Aus) bt M Tillström (Swe) 6-3, 6-0; Second round: K Kucera (Slovakia) bt T Muster (Austria) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; T Henman (GB) bt M Gustafsson (Swe) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4
MOSCOW: Kremlin Cup: First round: Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt J Stark (US) 6-7, 6-1, 6-3; J Novak (Cz) bt S Brugera (Sp) 2-6, 6-1, 6-4; J Sánchez (Sp) bt M Rosset (Switz) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6; B Black (Zim) bt P Luxa (Cz) 6-2, 6-2; D Nestor (Can) bt J Gimelstob (US) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4. Second round: M Damm (Cz) bt Novak 7-6, 6-4; Kafelnikov bt B Black 6-4, 6-3; Nestor bt Sánchez 6-4, 6-4; W Black (Zim) bt J Kroslak (Swe) 6-1, 7-6; D Vacek (Cz) bt G Kuerten (Br) 6-2, 6-4
SANTIAGO, Chile: Chevrolet Cup: First round: M Rios (Chile) bt D Sanguinetti (It) 6-2, 7-5; H Gumy (Arg) bt F Vicente (Sp) 6-2, 6-2, M Filippini (Uru) bt E Alvarez (Sp) 6-2, 7-6; F Meligeni (Br) bt J Díaz (Sp) 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, S Prieto (Arg) bt N Lapentti (Ec) 6-4, 6-4; O Gross (Ger) bt K Altamirano (Mor) 7-5, 6-2; F Clavet (Sp) bt V Spadea (US) 7-6, 6-3; A Gaudenzi (It) bt T Haas (Ger) 6-3, 6-2; A Martin (Sp) bt H Gumonal (Chile) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4; J Burillo (Sp) bt A Pavel (Rom) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6; J A Vilosa (Sp) bt N Massu (Chile) 6-7, 7-5, 6-3.
CHICAGO: Ameritech Cup: First round: M Pierce (Fr) bt C Cruciat (Rom) 6-3, 6-3; B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) bt C Rubin (US) 6-4, 7-5; L Raymond (US) bt H Sukova (Cz) 6-2, 6-2; M Grzybowska (Pol) bt J Capriati (US) 6-3, 7-5. Second round: L Davenport (US) bt J Kruger (SA) 6-2, 6-4; I Majoli (Cro) bt L Courtois (Bel) 7-5, 6-1.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLWOODS: Treble Chance (max 24 pts) 2,060 prizes of £425.30, 39,753 prizes of £4.30. (Two dividends only See rule 9). Half time results Max 23 pts, 31 prizes of £7,884.75. Other prizes: 1,784 prizes of £1.25, 8 prizes of £327.90, 1 prize of £3,882.00.
VERNONS: 24 pts £132.00, 23 pts £2.20. (Treble chance dividends to units of 5/11p). Super Shots: £23.50 (Paid on 3 correct). (to units of 12.5p). Promoter 10 £207.00 (paid on 8 correct) Dividend to units of 50p)
ZETTERS: Treble chance pool: 24pts £43.20, 23pts £0.60. Two dividends only (see rule 9b): Four draws £1.80. Eight homes £17.00. Four aways £135.40 Three draws £2.45 Fair lines £56.70. Lucky Numbers 8-15-6-32-18-9.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European Cup-Winners' Cup
Second round, second leg
Chelsea (2) v Tromso IL (3) (7.45)

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First round: Armthorpe Welfare v West Allotment Celtic.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Norwich v Brighton
FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundalk v Shelbourne (7.45)
FA YOUTH CUP: Third qualifying round replay: Histon v Somersham

SCHOOLS MATCH: Fuji Film Trophy: Third round: Rotherham v Blackpool (at Millmoor, 7.0). Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Merseyside v Lancashire (at Bootle, 7.0); West Midlands v Nottinghamshire (at Wolverhampton Casuals). Under-18: Staffordshire v Nottinghamshire (at Chase Town, 7.15). Boodle & Dunthorne Cup: St Edmunds, Canterbury v Brentwood

OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Newcastle Cobras v Cardiff Devils (7.0).

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

West couldn't resist butting in with the 'Unusual' Two No-Trumps (showing at least 5-5 in the minors) over South's opening One Spade. When North-South eventually reached Six Spades, the overcall served only to help declarer place the cards.

Dealer South *North-South game* *IMPs*

North: ♠KQJ87 ♥J976 ♦K62 ♣4
West: ♠10 ♥105 ♦Q9873 ♣K9876
East: ♠4 ♥KQ4 ♦J1054 ♣J10532
South: ♠A96532 ♥A832 ♦A ♣AQ

Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: seven of clubs.

Declarer draws trumps and eliminates the minors, forcing the defenders to return a heart when they get in, on pain of conceding a ruff-and-discard. With the lead in hand at trick nine, declarer is left with A83 facing J97, and a trump in each hand. Courtesy of the Two No-Trump overcall, West is known to have at most two hearts – he has already produced a spade and has shown at least ten cards in the minors. What is declarer's best line in the endgame?

With no overcall, the best play would be ace and another heart, which succeeds by force when East has king- or queen-doubleton. This holding is not possible here but the line still has merit if West might not be up to unblocking from Kx or Qx.

Against stronger opposition, it is better to lead small towards the nine. This profits from the layout in the diagram: the nine forces the queen, and the return runs round to the jack. It also gains when West has a singleton queen or king.

When you're playing with the big boys (I nearly said 'grown-ups', but last time I used that sort of expression I was accused of being demeaning to children) West will contribute the ten on the first round of hearts. That is covered by the jack and (say) king, and East plays back (say) the four. West's ten could be from Q10 doubleton, singleton 10, or a falsecard from 105. Declarer gives himself the best chance at this stage by running the heart round to the jack. That caters to the last two of West's three possible holdings.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

New star

British chess has a new potential grandmaster on the horizon. Although not rated as one of the favourites at the start of the competition, Brighton international master Andrew Kinsman scored a highly convincing victory in the Owens Corning tournament at Wrexham to notch his first grandmaster norm. His play was marked both by strategic solidity and tactical opportunism.

White: Sahu
Black: Kinsman
Owens Corning, Wrexham 1997

King's Indian Attack

1	e4	e6
2	d3	c5
3	Nf3	Nc6
4	c3	d5
5	Nbd2	g6
6	Be2	Bg7
7	0-0	Nge7
8	Re1	b6
9	Qc2	Bb7
10	a3	0-0
11	Rb1	a5
12	a4	Rc8
13	Nf1	h6
14	Ne3	f5
15	exd5	exd5
16	Qb3	f4
17	Nc2	g5
18	Nd2	Nf5
19	Ne3	Re8
20	Nc2	Ne5
21	Nf3	c4
22	Qa2	cxd3
23	Ncd4	Nxd3+
24	Nxd3	dxe2
25	h3	Ba6
26	Bd2	Kh8
27	Qb3	Re4
28	Ra1	h5
29	g4	fxg3
30	Nxg5	gxf2+
31	Kxf2	Qc7
32	Rg1	Rf4++
33	Bxf4	Qxf4+
34	Ke1	Ne3
35	Ne6	Ng2+
36	Rxg2	Qf1+
37	Kd2	Qxg2
38	Re1	Bh6+

White resigns

Diagram of final position

Here is a last round win by the veteran Czech grandmaster Vlastimil Jansa.
White: Jansa
Black: Sahu
Owens Corning, Wrexham 1997

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	Nf6
4	0-0	Nxe4
5	d4	Nd6
6	Bxc6	dxc6
7	dxe5	Ne4
8	Qe2	Bf5
9	Rd1	Qe7
10	Be3	Rd8
11	Na3	Rxd1+
12	Rxd1	Nc3
13	bxc3	Qxa3
14	Nd4	Bc8
15	e6	Qe7
16	Qh5	g6
17	Qe5	f6
18	Qa5	Qd8
19	Rd3	Bd6
20	Bh6	a6
21	c4	Qe7
22	Qa4	b5
23	Qb3	bxc4
24	Qxc4	c5
25	Qa4+	Bd7
26	exd7	Qxd7
27	Nc6	Kf7
28	Ne5+	

Black resigns

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HEFFALUMP
a. A fat person
b. An elephant
c. A Viennese pastry

NITTO
a. A marsh bird
b. Look out!
c. A penny coin

HAMEL
a. Dried beef
b. A castrated ram
c. A dumpling

NARRISCHKEIT
a. A greedy beggar
b. Impertinence
c. Nonsense

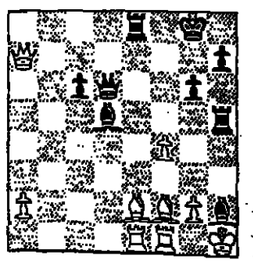
Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Forno — Puzzoni, San Giorgio 1997.

Black has a very powerful attack thanks to his very active bishops. How did he finish off?



Solution on page 46

هكذا من الاصل

Italy may solve Robson's search for talent

By Richard Hobson

NINE months after leaving Everton for Fiorentina in an £8 million deal, Andrei Kanchelskis could be about to return to English football. Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, is understood to have spoken to representatives of the Russia winger amid suggestions that a £4 million transfer might be completed by the weekend.

Michel Padovano, the Juventus striker, is also thought to be a target for the ambitious Nationwide League first division club.

Robson, who spent Monday and Tuesday in Italy, declined to comment ahead of Middlesbrough's game against Portsmouth at the Riverside Stadium last night. However, Viv Anderson, his assistant, refused to dismiss the conjecture, and a club spokesman said: "There will be no comment on any transfer until it is completed."

If any manager should have had his fill of foreign players it is Robson, but the signing of Kanchelskis, 28, would not represent a leap into the dark. Robson played alongside him for Manchester United, and although Kanchelskis's departure from Old Trafford was somewhat acrimonious, Robson is fully aware of his pace and ability to score goals, cutting inside from the right flank.

Fiorentina have made a moderate start to their season in Serie A and Kanchelskis has not been a regular in the team. He has also found it difficult to settle in Italy.

Padovano, a late developer at 31, is third choice behind Alessandro del Piero and Filippo Inzaghi at Juventus. It is unlikely that he will be sold, though, with the Turin club still involved in the European Cup Champions' League.

Meanwhile, Middlesbrough were on more familiar ground yesterday in claiming that comments allegedly made by Emerson, that he would leave the club for Italy or Spain before Christmas, have been taken out of context.

"He is 90 per cent sure that he will be staying for the rest of the season," Anderson said. Middlesbrough rejected an offer of £4 million from the Portuguese club, Benfica, for the Brazilian midfield player last week.

Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final place beckons for Chelsea

Vialli's crystal ball has positive glow

By Brian Glanville

"SOMETIMES," Gianluca Vialli said, "I know that I'm going to score. For tomorrow I already know what is going to happen, but I can't tell you. I've got a feeling."

It was Vialli, at the very end of that snow-ridden fiasco in Tromso, who scored twice to get Chelsea off the hook in the first leg of their second-round Cup Winners' Cup tie against a Norwegian team which might have won by four or five goals. This evening's second leg will, it is to be hoped, be played in more normal conditions.

The first game had nothing to do with football, and it is highly significant that Chelsea's Norwegian striker, Tore Andre Flo, who spent a year with Tromso, said that he had never had to play in such conditions.

For his part, Ruud Gullit, Chelsea's player-manager, who tried in vain to get the game stopped when the snow was blowing into the faces of his team, says that the snowstorm had been forecast, but Tromso resisted the opportunity of playing in Oslo. All in all, quite a shrewd piece of gamesmanship.

"It's going to be totally different from the game out there," Dennis Wise, the Chelsea captain, said, with some feeling.

"At least we've got a decent pitch and we'll be able to pass it this time. They were crunching up the snow, putting the ball on top, and from 30 or 40 yards, just smashing at the goal. The ball, when it hits the snow, it zips."

Wise, Gullit and Vialli are all agreed that this return will be no easy game, that Tromso are likely to pack their defence and then counter-attack.

Since that first leg, Tromso have got themselves out of trouble, winning 4-0 — in an indoor stadium, please note — and 2-1 against Eile Tonsberg, to secure their place in Norway's top division.

"After the match out there," Vialli said, "everyone felt we were already in the next round, but I think we have to do a hell of a job tomorrow. They're going to create problems for us, so I think we have to be mentally, technically and tactically very clever. I think they are going to sit back and they can be deadly on the counter-attack.

"They deserved to win in Tromso but I can't say they deserved to win by more than one goal. We scored just one minute before the end (both Chelsea's goals, of course, were his) and I think that was a vital goal.

"They are a very well organised team. They don't have any superstars, but they work very hard. After the first half out there, I was thinking, 'Oh, Luca, you're playing so badly. But even if you are playing badly, you are going to score.' I was very lucky, because I was having a nightmare in the first half."

Yet, as he says, conditions in the first 45 minutes were a good deal more playable than in the second, when Chelsea had to face the wind and the snow.

This season, Vialli feels, he is playing much better than last. "This has got something to do with fitness, of course. If you are fitter you can play better, if you play better, you can get confidence in yourself and score more. I am mentally very relaxed. I'm happy with my performance so far and I think the manager is happy as well, and that gives me a great enthusiasm." Modest words indeed, from one of the game's salient stars.

Gullit says that, as usual, his team will approach the game as if it were a final. "I don't think you can forget that game in Tromso, ever," he said.

"I think our players were at a great disadvantage. I think now it's going to be totally different, for them as well as us. From our point of view, it was difficult to see the real Chelsea in Tromso and that can be a disadvantage for them. It's nothing to do with an excuse. It's to do with a fact. It was a strange situation for everybody."

For Chelsea, it was a well-nigh impossible situation. Tromso simply hit the ball long and hard to their two big, blond strikers, tactics which are unlikely to work at Stamford Bridge.

The Norwegians have a reputation of being at their best against the best, but given their overall domestic league record, it would be surprising if they survived this return leg.

And Vialli's premonitions? The suggestion was that they are positive. And, he says, they have proved correct 90 per cent of the time so far.

CHELSEA (probable, 4-4-2): E De Goey — F Sinclair, F Leboeuf, S Clarke, D Granville — R Di Matteo, E Newton, D Wise, C Babayaro — G Vialli, G Zola (for M Hughes).

TROMSO (4-4-2): T Gransesen — S M Johansen, S Nilsen, B Johansen, M Kraemer — R Bentsen, R Christansen, F Ferrarin, J Hansen — O M Arst, R Lange

Vialli, centre, ploughs through the snow in Tromso last month to score his second goal and make Chelsea favourites to win the tie tonight

Ireland recall Kilbane

By Our Sports Staff

KEVIN KILBANE, the West Bromwich Albion winger, has been recalled by Ireland for the second leg of the World Cup play-off against Belgium in Brussels on November 15. The 20-year-old made his international debut in the 4-2 victory over Iceland in Reykjavik in September.

The Tranmere Rovers striker, David Kelly, who missed the 1-1 draw with the Belgians in Dublin last week because of an ankle injury, also returns to the squad after proving his fitness by scoring in the 2-1 defeat at Sheffield United last Saturday.

But Kilbane's team-mate, Michael Evans, who was injured in the build-up to the first leg after a collision in training with Jason McAteer, of Liverpool, will not be available for at least three weeks because of a fractured cheekbone.

Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, accepted that Ireland would go into the tie as underdogs, but said he felt that his side would show an improvement. "As far as I am concerned, we are only at half-time in this tie," he said. "We didn't play well in the first leg but know we can do much better in Brussels." Ireland have sold their allocation of 9,000 tickets.

Crewe Alexandra have placed their highly-rated striker, Dele Adebola, on the transfer list. The striker, who is expected to cost around £1.5 million, has been linked with West Ham United and Sunderland this season but Dario Gradi is now ready to sell after leaving him out of the side that lost 2-0 at home to Wolverhampton Wanderers on Tuesday night.

Wolves, meanwhile, are negotiating with Derby County for the winger, Paul Simpson, who has been on loan at the Nationwide League first division club for a month. The Wolves manager, Mark McGhee, confirmed that he is close to a £750,000 deal.

Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager, travelled to Sweden last night to watch the Gothenborg midfield player, Niclas Alexandersson, in the Champions' League match with Besiktas. Villa are reportedly considering an offer of around £1.5 million for the 25-year-old, who has won 30 caps for Sweden.

IRELAND SQUAD (v Belgium in Brussels, November 15): S Given (Newcastle United), A Kelly (Sheffield United); G Kelly (Leeds United), K Cunningham (Wimbledon), I Harte (Leeds United), G Breen (Coventry City), J Kenna (Blackburn Rovers), D Irwin (Manchester United), T Phelan (Everton), C Fleming (Middlesbrough); A Townsend (Middlesbrough), S Staunton (Aston Villa), R Houghton (Reading), J McAteer (Liverpool), A McLoughlin (Portsmouth), L Carsley (Derby County); A Cascarino (Nancy); M Kennedy (Liverpool), D Connolly (Feyenoord), D Kelly (Tranmere Rovers), T Coyne (Motherwell), K Kilbane (West Bromwich Albion).

Brentford tempt Adams to try his luck again

By Russell Kempson

MICKY ADAMS hardly looks old enough to be a manager. His hair has not prematurely greyed or receded and there are no worry lines on his face. Yesterday, though, he became the manager of a Nationwide League club for the third time in 42 days when he took over at Brentford.

Adams, 36 this Saturday, replaces Eddie May, who joined the club only three months ago, and has appointed Glenn Cockerill, the Fulham player-coach, as his assistant. Clive Walker, May's No 2, has also left Griffin Park.

Before announcing the arrival of Adams, Dave Webb, the Brentford chief executive, revealed that he had offered his resignation from the post he took up in August, when he was promoted from manager. He will stay on in a consultative capacity, helping Adams and Cockerill, until his contract expires at the end of the season.

"I felt I needed to change the direction I was going in," Webb said. "I have given four good years of service to the club but the supporters' demands were becoming too much.

"Micky is one of the best young managers about and I'm sure he'll do a good job. I didn't want to get someone in who would be perceived as some sort of puppet for me. Micky is certainly not that."

Adams guided Fulham to promotion to the second division last season, but was abruptly dismissed when Kevin Keegan and Ray Wilkins were brought in at Craven Cottage, as chief operating officer and manager respectively, in September. He swiftly resurfaced at Swansea City, replacing Jan Molby, but walked out after only 13 days in charge, citing "unkept promises".

Adams: delighted

"Swansea was not a mistake but maybe I jumped in a bit too quickly," Adams said yesterday. "They promised me the earth but didn't deliver. The team was a mess when I got there and needed strengthening immediately, but then I was told there was no money.

"The difference at Brentford is that there is no hidden agenda. I have been told there is money available, although I have not yet been given a specific budget, and I will have to develop young players as well. I feel that's one of my strengths."

Brentford were beaten by Crewe Alexandra in the second division play-off final at Wembley in May. However, since Webb's move "upstairs", they have won only four league matches. After the 1-0 home defeat by Carlisle United, the bottom club, on Tuesday night, they slipped to 22nd place.

"I personally made inquiries about the availability of Micky and a few others last week," Webb said. "I was asked to do it, but after the defeat against Carlisle, things had to move a bit more quickly."

Adams and Cockerill have signed three-year contracts. "It's been a funny month but I'm delighted to have another opportunity," Adams said. "Brentford are a bad team but they have potential. After what happened at Swansea, I wanted to make the right decision. I get the same feeling about Brentford as when I was at Fulham."

Brentford play Fulham at Craven Cottage on December 2. "I hope I get a good reception from the Fulham fans," Adams said. "I didn't want to leave and they know that."

Bickering players cast shadow over Villa

By Russell Kempson

AROUND midnight on Tuesday, Warwick service station on the M40 was awash with red and white stripes. Not with Sunderland or Stoke City supporters but with the followers of Athletic Bilbao, who had stopped off for refreshment before returning to northern Spain. After losing to Aston Villa in their Uefa Cup second-round tie, it would be a long trek home.

They descended on the restaurant by the coachload but, despite the defeat of a few hours earlier, they were in good humour. They queued in an orderly fashion for food, there were no obscene chants and the waitresses felt safe. "They were charming," one of the staff said, "but I dread to think what would have happened if it had been English fans."

The Bilbao supporters deserve better than to have a side, which sticks rigidly to its Basques-only rule, that has little chance of breaking the domination of Real Madrid and Barcelona in the Spanish first division. A high league finish, and another venture into the Uefa Cup next season, is perhaps the best they can hope for.

Villa supporters deserve better, too, than a side, which has been racked by internal bickering, that languishes in fourteenth place in the FA Carling Premiership and appears only able to rouse itself for the big European nights. Such gross underachieving has not gone unnoticed in the Holte End.

At least victory over Bilbao — 2-1 at Villa Park, 2-1 on aggregate — has taken the heat out of an increasingly volatile situation. It was impossible to judge who was the more relieved on Tuesday night — Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, or Brian Little, the manager — but Ellis possibly shaded it.

He has mostly kept his own counsel as Little has tried vainly to rein in his bickering troops but a place in the last 16, the draw for which is made tomorrow, is now all that matters. For the moment. "Brian is a very good manager, it's as simple as that," Ellis said. "I hope he will be here for a long, long time to come. I stand by him one thousand per cent."

Motivation is the key word. Yet why should Villa's players need the glare of the European spotlight before producing what they are paid handsomely for? What is going on in the minds of Little's pampered professionals?

And then there is the Stan Collymore factor. Little invested £7 million in him during the summer but has so far received a poor return — one goal in 14 matches, two bookings, a sending-off and a three-match suspension.

Collymore did not play against Bilbao. He has not recovered from asinus operation. Dwight Yorke and Savo Milosevic combined well up front — Yorke scoring the decisive goal after Ian Taylor's opener — and will probably continue together against Crystal Palace on Saturday.

When Collymore is fit, Little has a problem. It is not easy to leave out a £7 million player, but including him will disrupt the Yorke-Milosevic pairing.

Beating Bilbao, welcome though it was, has acted only as a masking agent. The problems within have not gone away and will not until the discontented at Villa Park show a more healthy regard for the Premiership. Little still has much to ponder.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Boodle & Dunthorne Cup: Bolton GS 10 Wellingborough 0; Shrewsbury 4 St Bede's 2.

Tuesday's late results

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham 0 Bradford 0; Bury 2 Nottingham Forest 0; Crewe 0 Wolverhampton 2; Ipswich 0 Stockport 2; Reading 0 Sheffield United 1; Stoke 0 Oxford United 0; Sunderland 0 Charlton 0; Tranmere 1 Huddersfield 0; West Brom 1 Norwich 0; Manchester City 2 Port Vale 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottm F	15	9	3	3	24	13	30
Sheff Utd	13	8	4	1	21	10	28
Swindon	15	8	4	3	19	17	28
West Brom	15	8	4	3	13	12	28
Charlton	15	7	5	3	30	18	26
Wolvrhmptn	16	7	4	5	20	16	25
Bradford	15	6	7	2	16	14	25
Middlesbro	13	7	3	3	23	13	24
Stockport	16	6	5	5	25	22	23
Port Vale	16	6	4	6	22	20	22
Sunderland	15	6	4	5	20	18	22
QPR	14	6	4	4	19	20	22
Birmingham	16	5	7	4	17	12	22
Stoke	16	6	4	5	16	17	22
Bury	16	4	7	5	19	22	19
Oxford Utd	16	4	4	8	16	23	16
Norwich	15	4	4	7	11	22	16
Tranmere	15	4	3	8	21	22	15
Crewe	16	4	3	9	16	25	15
Reading	16	1	6	7	16	25	15
Man City	15	3	5	7	19	19	14
Ipswich	14	3	5	6	13	18	14
Portsmth	14	2	4	8	16	25	10
Huddersfld	16	1	5	10	11	30	8

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: UniBond League 0 FA XI 5

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Lancaster 1 Winsford 1. First division: Great Harwood 2 Congleton 5; Lincoln 3 Eastwood Town 0; Whitley Bay 3 Workington 0; Witton 2 Belper Town 0. Cup: First round: Guiseley 0 Bishop Auckland 3; Spennymoor 1 Whitby 1.

FA CARLSBERG VASE: First-round replay: Wednesfield 4 Kings Heath 0; Ware 2 Hillingdon 4; Devizes 0 Chipperham 4

SECOND DIVISION: Blackpool 1 Northampton 1; Brentford 0 Carlisle 1; Bristol Rovers 1 Bristol City 2; Chesterfield 1 Gillingham 1; Luton 2 Burnley 3; Millwall 1 Fulham 1; Oldham 3 Wigan 1; Plymouth 4 Wycombe 2; Southend 0 Watford 3; Walsall 0 Grimsby 0; Wrexham 2 Bournemouth 1; York 1 Preston 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Watford	16	12	2	2	30	11	38
Bristol City	16	9	3	4	23	13	30
Northmptn	16	7	7	2	18	11	28
Walsall	15	8	3	4	22	15	27
Gillingham	15	7	4	5	22	19	25
York	16	7	4	5	22	20	25
Oldham	16	6	6	4	28	22	24
Wrexham	15	6	4	5	23	20	22
Bournmth	16	5	7	4	17	14	22
Chesterfld	16	5	7	4	17	16	22
Blackpool	16	6	3	7	24	28	21
Bristol R	16	5	6	5	20	20	21
Grimsby	16	5	6	5	17	18	21
Wycombe	16	5	5	6	28	27	20
Fulham	16	5	5	6	15	16	20
Wigan	16	5	4	7	23	26	19
Preston	16	5	4	7	14	13	19
Burnley	16	3	8	5	17	19	17
Luton	16	4	5	7	16	24	17
Plymouth	16	3	7	6	19	24	16
Walsall	16	4	4	8	18	23	16
Brentford	16	4	4	8	17	23	16
Carlisle	16	4	3	9	20	29	15
Southend	16	4	3	9	15	32	15

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 0 Halesowen 0; Dorchester 2 Bath 1; King's Lynn 1 Gresley 0. Cup: First round, second leg: Brackley 0 Corby 2 (Corby win 3-2 on agg); Burton 1 Tamworth 1 (Burton win 3-1 on agg); Frome 1 Bashley 1 (Bashley win 5-1 on agg); Alvechurch 0 Havant 2 (Havant win 3-1 on agg); Southern division: Cremorne 1 Weymouth 1; super-Mare 2, Margate 3; Erith and Belvedere 1

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Beckwell 3 Mangotsfield 2; Bristol Manor Farm 0 Paulton 1;

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Hythe 1 Deal 0; Tunbridge Wells 5 Crockenhill 0; Whitstable 1 Greenwich 1.

THIRD DIVISION: Doncaster 1 Cardiff 1; Hull 3 Exeter 2; Leyton Orient 3 Scarborough 1; Macclesfield 0 Colchester 0; Mansfield 3 Rotherham 3; Notts County 1 Chester 2; Peterborough 1 Shrewsbury 1; Rochdale 0 Lincoln City 0; Scunthorpe 3 Cambridge United 3; Swansea 0 Hartlepool 2; Torquay 2 Darlington 1.

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	16	9	5	2	34	15	32
Notts County	16	9	5	2	24	15	32
Exeter	16	8	5	3	24	17	29
Lincoln City	16	8	5	3	17	13	29
Chester	16	8	2	6	27	23	26
Scunthorpe	15	7	4	4	20	18	25
Colchester	16	6	6	4	24	22	24
Scarborough	16	7	3	6	24	22	24
Hartlepool	16	6	6	4	23	18	24
Barnet	15	7	3	5	22	20	24

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES

Steve McManaman on Liverpool's European demise

Plus: Danny Baker

Lawrence Dallaglio on rugby

Simon Barnes talks horse

UEFA CUP: Second round: second leg: Aston Villa 2 Athletic Bilbao 1 (Aston Villa win 2-1 on agg); Liverpool 2 Strasbourg 0 (Strasbourg win 3-2 on agg); Dinamo Tbilisi (Geo) 0 Sporting Braga (Por) 1 (Braga win 5-0 on agg); Karlsruhe SC (Ger) 1 Metz (Fr) 1 (Karlsruhe win 3-1 on agg); Twente Enschede (Holl) 0 AGF Aarhus (Denmark) 0 (1-1 on agg; Twente Enschede win on away goals rule); Lazio (It) 3 Rotor Volgograd (Russ) 0 (Lazio win 3-0 on agg); Croatia Zagreb (Cro) 2 MTK Budapest (Hun) 0 (Zagreb win 2-1 on agg); OFI Crete (Gr) 3 Auxerre (Fr) 2 (Auxerre win 5-4 on agg); Bastia (Fr) 3 Steaua Bucharest (Rom) 2 (3-3 on agg; Steaua win on away goals rule), 1860 Munich (Ger) 2 Rapid Vienna (Austria) 1 (Rapid win 4-2 on agg); Lyons (Fr) 1 Internazionale (It) 3 (Inter win 4-3 on agg); Udinese (It) 2 Ajax (Holl) 1 (2-2 on agg; Ajax win on away goals rule); PAOK Salonika (Gr) 4 Atlético Madrid 4 (Atlético win 9-5 on agg); Real Valladolid (Sp) 1 Spartak Moscow (Russ) 2 (Spartak win 4-1 on agg).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Leatherhead 5 Worthing 1; Staines 3 Berkhamsted 2. Second division: Canvey Island 3 Chesham 0; Wivenhoe 0 Marlow 0. Third division: Postponed: Corinthian Casuals v Ware. Guardian Insurance Cup: Second round: Aldershot Town 0 Dagenham and Redbridge 1; Basingstoke 1 Aveley 1 (aet, 0-0 after 90min); Billericay 0 Purfleet 0 (aet); Boreham Wood 4 Bognor 3; Carshalton 1 Yeading 0; Chapton 1 St Albans 2; Gravesend and Northfleet 3 Wokingham 2 (aet; 1-1 after 90min); Hampton 2 Walton and Hersham 3; Heybridge Swifts 0 Oxford City 1; Romford 4 Chertsey 1; Sutton United 3 Uxbridge 0. Postponed: Tooting and Mitcham v Camberley Town. Full Members Cup: First round: Dulwich Hamlet 0 Kingstonian 3.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Langney Sports 1 Selsdean 2; Littlehampton 3 Hassocks 0; Pagham 0 Chichester 2; Shoreham 1 Selsey 0. John O'Hara League Cup: Second round: Oakwood 0 Horsham YMCA 3.

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Invitation Cup: Hinckley 2 Knypersley 0; Aylestone Pk O B 0 Chasetown FC 2; Blaston Community Coll 1 Holwell Sports 0; Blakenall 3 Lutterworth 2; Bloxwich 6 Bromsgrove 0; Continental Star 3 Chesilyn Hey 5; Pershore 1 Worcester 4; Stafford 2 Rocester 0.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bolehill Swifts 1 Southam 0; Meir K A 3 Massey Ferguson 1.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss 1 Histon 1; Ely 1 Woodbridge 2; Great Yarmouth 4 Tiptree 1; Lowestoft 0 Sudbury 4.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Bemerton Heath Harlequins 0 Bournemouth 2; Wimborne 5 Totton 1. Postponed: Andover v AFC Newbury.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Dunston Federation 0 South Shields 1; Easington 1 Northallerton 2; Morpeth Town 1 Bedlington Terriers 1.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries 2 Darwen 2; Blackpool Rovers 2 Clitheroe 2; Newcastle Town 2 Vauxhall G M 1; Rossendale 1 Atherton LR 0; Westhoughton 0 Burscough 2.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 3 Crystal Palace 0.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston 2 Stamford 0; Buckingham 0 W'Borough 1; Cogenhoe 4 Stotfold 3; Desborough 0 Spalding 0; Holbeach 1 Ernesbury 2; Kempston 0 Yaxley 1; M Blackstone 1 Bourne 0; Potton 1 Ford Sports 1; St Neots 1 N Spencer 2; S and L Corby 1 Long Buckby 1.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ballymena 0 Glenavon 0; Cliftonville 3 Coleraine 1; Portadown 0 Linfield 2. Postponed: Ards v Crusaders; Glentoran v Omagh.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Goodway is counting on do-or-die attitude

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

GREAT BRITAIN have refused to be panicked into drastic surgery for the second *British Gas* international at Old Trafford on Saturday, with four changes, two positional, from the starting line-up beaten 38-14 by Australia at Wembley.

Jason Robinson has been moved to a freer role on the right wing, with Paul Atcheson, a specialist full back, brought in for his full debut. Alan Hunte has switched wings to the left, which was falteringly occupied at Wembley by Anthony Sullivan, his St Helens colleague, one of two players dropped.

Andy Goodway, the Britain coach, has omitted Mick Cassidy from the pack, where the overall lack of raw aggression was one of the disappointments of the first match, and introduced Adrian Morley, who made an impact when he came on towards the end of the first half.

TEAM

GREAT BRITAIN: P Atcheson (St Helens); J Robinson (Wigan), K Radlinski (Wigan), P Newlove (St Helens), A Hunte (St Helens); A Farrell (Wigan, captain), R Goulding (St Helens); P Broadbent (Sheffield), J Lowes (Bradford), B McDermott (Bradford), C Joynt (St Helens), A Morley (Leeds), P Scullthorpe (Warrington). Substitutes: S Long (St Helens), M Forshaw (Bradford), S Haughton (Wigan), S McNamara (Bradford).

With Simon Haughton and Mike Forshaw, both powerful second-row forwards, brought in on the bench, Goodway is seeking aggression. "Do-or-die, call it what you will, it is a case of us having to take the game to them," Goodway said.

Sean Long is the third new face on the bench, as cover for hooker and for both half-back positions, which are again occupied by Andy Farrell, the captain, and Bobbie Goulding, who might have come under pressure for the scrum-half berth if Martin Crompton had attended training this week.

Crompton, on holiday since his omission from the first match, was yesterday dropped from the squad. Goodway has heard nothing from him and his action was bitterly criticised by Phil Lowe, the team manager. "I'm very disappointed with Martin's attitude. If he doesn't want to make himself available for his country, maybe he's better off where he is," he said.

Goodway, who had already persuaded Crompton to rejoin the squad once, said: "There were one or two options he didn't agree with and I can understand players being disappointed when they're not chosen. However, this is a three-match series and the idea if not selected is to work twice as hard to get that spot for the next match."

There was little Goodway could do than continue with Farrell out of position at stand-off. Farrell put his indifferent performance at Wembley down to "dumb play" and not unfamiliarity with the No 6 role. He, too, is confident of a better performance.

After training at Wigan yesterday, Goodway dead-batted a question about criticism of the team after the Wembley match by Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League (RFL) chief executive. "No players have mentioned it," he said.

Meanwhile, the club, having risen from the ashes of Oldham Bears, which went into liquidation last month, outlined its plans to enter a team in the second division next season. They will play at Boundary Park, where the Bears spent last season, or Spotland, the home of Rochdale Hornets, until a new dual-purpose stadium is built in Oldham.

As associate members of the RFL, the new club will receive no money from the £87 million Super League pool. Chris Hamilton, the four-man consortium spokesman, said: "We are starting from the bottom with nothing. We are fortunate to start off with a debt-free situation."

Seven Bears players have joined other clubs as free agents after the former club collapsed with debts of more than £1 million. "One of the first priorities is to name a coach and then look at players," Hamilton said. "We've a lot to learn from what happened to the old club. What happens off the field is of particular importance."

Daley stands out as a rare vintage

VICTORIA MATTHEWS

Daley's quick thinking and hat-trick of tries proved the inspiration for the Australia team that outclassed Great Britain at Wembley

Christopher Irvine on the half back whose enjoyment fuels a rugby league superpower

In and around the country towns of Junee and Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, they make cricketers, such as Mark Taylor and Michael Slater, and rugby league players, such as Peter Sterling and Greg Brentnall, to last. Laurie Daley excelled at both sports and might have ended up playing Australian Rules for the Sydney Swans, were it not for Canberra Raiders and the 13-man game, his first love.

A decade later, Daley and Allan Langercan justifiably claim to be the greatest players of their generation. Now 28 and on his third tour to this country, this time as captain, Daley is in his vintage. Injury has broken up the half-back partnership with Langer for the British Gas international series, but at Wembley last Saturday. Daley was a sublime, one-man show, teasing, tormenting and finally killing off poor Great Britain.

The abiding impression left by Daley's three-try display was that Britain, too, once produced half backs of similar calibre — Alex Murphy, Roger Millward, Andy Gregory, Garry Schofield — but that in the mad rush for brawn above brain, players of Daley's subtle qualities have been lost. Is it any wonder that Britain have not unearthed a genuinely creative stand-off since Schofield's withdrawal from the international scene in 1994?

When injury forced Wally Lewis from the Australia side in 1990, no one could have imagined that the young Daley would supplant "King Wally". At Wembley on Saturday, there were echoes of Lewis's genius, the nonchalant prising open of gaps, the ability to compress time and create space for his trickery and the inch-perfect tactical kicks, short, long or into the outstretched arms of his wing.

Daley's mastery springs from enjoyment, pure and simple. "I don't see myself as another Wally Lewis, just a guy who loves his footy, who likes a beer after the game, training and, above all, playing. I take a lot of pride in my performance, but when you put pressures and expectations on yourself, that's when it's all too much to live up to," he said. "When you're confident, you're enjoying it that much more. All the time I'm mixing my game, so that the opposition can't work me out." Lewis had a brief, celebrated spell in 1983 at Wakefield Trinity, where Daley was heading at one stage until injury, a common curse of his younger years, intervened. He would have made more than 22 international appearances but for serious problems with his legs and the exclusion of Super League players, of whom Daley was the most notable, from the victorious Australian Rugby League World Cup team of 1995.

Despite the bitterness of the two-year dispute in Australia, the portrayal of the rebel Super League players as dollar-grabbing mercenaries and the personal abuse he took, Daley is a prime advocate of the Super League and its global vision.

Not surprising, as the money has set him up for life, yet like most players on both sides, he earnestly hopes that there will be a unified Australian competition next year. Daley would be one of the few players assured of his place in a united Australia team. "I'd hate to pick the side. There are such depths of talents in both camps. Maybe one of two of the young guys wouldn't have got to tour this time, but the experience can only enhance them and, in Craig Gower and Darren Lockyer, you've got potential greats."

Appearances can be deceptive, and although this Australia team might go down as one of the quietest off the field, the noise that they are capable of on it excites Daley. "Some sides might have three or four key players. Close them down and a side doesn't function. With Australia, maybe you've eight or nine blokes who can control the game," he said.

That is why Britain could clamp down on Daley at Old Trafford in the second match on Saturday and still find themselves overrun. Whatever, Daley does not subscribe to the theory that Britain will implode, although he was surprised in the world club championship how poorly English club sides performed and that Britain effectively gave up the chase in the last 15 minutes at Wembley.

Would Australia, 12 points behind, have thrown in the towel? "No," Daley said. "We'd have probably been more adventurous, cranked things up. Maybe it's our attitude . . . maybe they were tired." Tired of chasing Daley, perhaps.

ICE HOCKEY

Brebant is awaiting bite from Cobras

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RICK BREBANT, the coach of struggling Newcastle Cobras, yesterday announced that he may not be in charge for the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final at home to Cardiff Devils today.

Brebant is feeling the pressure after a dismal run that has seen the club from the North East lose eight of their past ten games, including all of their opening seven matches in the Superleague. Newcastle have a mountain to climb in the Newcastle Arena against Cardiff, after losing the first leg 6-2 in the Icehouse last Saturday.

Brebant indicated that he may be about to lose his job, when questioned yesterday afternoon, after he had already said that he would never walk out.

Asked whether he would take to the ice to help Newcastle out of the doldrums, he said: "I don't know what I'm going to be doing any more."

When questioned further about whether he would be in charge today, he replied: "I don't know. I don't want to say anything else. I'm fed up, very fed up."

Newcastle's season has fallen apart after a successful start to their Benson and Hedges campaign, when they won six and drew two of their ten group matches to reach the quarter-finals.

Only a 5-1 victory at Basingstoke Bison — after a 1-1 home draw in the first leg of the last-eight tie — temporarily lifted the gloom over Newcastle. But Brebant, who earlier this season gave up the playing side of the sport to concentrate on coaching, still tried to remain optimistic in the face of an enormous hurdle.

"If we get a couple of early goals and the crowd lift us, then who knows," he added. "We are due for some lucky breaks.

"Whatever has happened in the past, we've got to forget about. We've got to believe we are going to win and win big.

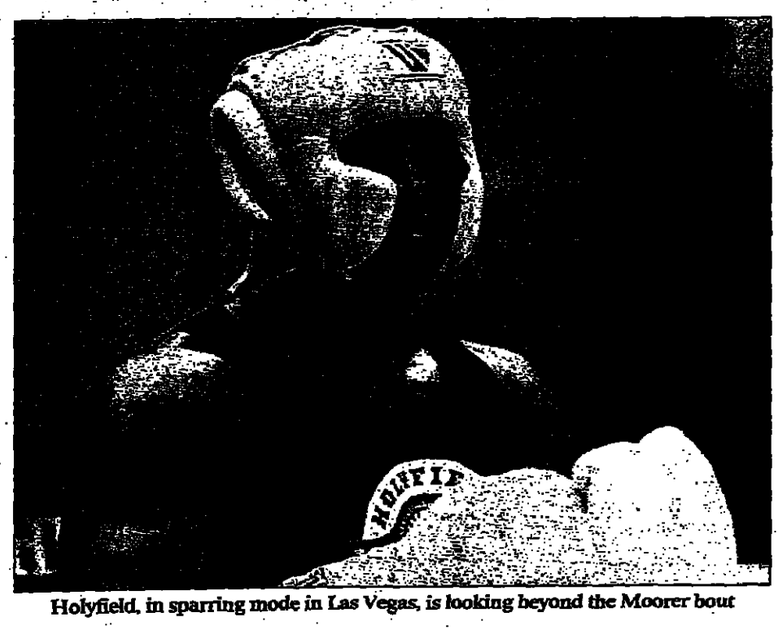
"It's like that saying about an animal being backed in a corner — that's us, we are that animal. There's a lot of frustration and the boys are down, but everybody knows what they've got to do.

"The key is just to win and get some confidence going. But Cardiff play smart, counter-attacking hockey. If we're caught trying to press, then they could get a few easy goals and put the game out of reach."

BOXING: TYSON'S CONQUEROR COMMITTED TO BRINGING AN END TO TITLE CONFUSION

Unification tops Holyfield's agenda

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS



Holyfield, in sparring mode in Las Vegas, is looking beyond the Moorer bout

WHETHER or not Evander Holyfield is acclaimed as one of the great heavyweights of all time at the end of his career, no one will be able to deny that the three-time world champion brought dignity back to the division which had reached its lowest point after the return of Mike Tyson from prison.

Tyson's decision to take the easy way back to the top by picking opponents he could beat and demanding vast fortunes to fight men like Peter McNeeley, Buster Mathis, Bruce Seldon, Frank Bruno and even Holyfield, who was thought to be a sick man and well past his best, had cost the division its credibility. Tyson had not followed in the footsteps of the great. When Muhammad Ali returned after a similarly long absence, he signed to meet Joe Frazier.

After his feat of twice humiliating Tyson, Holyfield is setting about making heavyweight boxing a sport again. He wants the division to have one champion and if he is successful here on Saturday in adding Michael Moorer's International Boxing Federation title to the World Boxing Association crown he already has, he is expected to insist that he fights Lennox Lewis, the World Boxing Council champion, to decide who is the best in the world.

"Hopefully, I will get a fight with Lennox. That would pretty much close out my career," he said yesterday. "I have not committed myself to anyone to a point where a fight cannot be made. We want to see the best against the best, and not tie a fighter to a [television] network to the point where he cannot be the best that he can be. The game of boxing is all about coming to an agreement so that things can work for everybody. Sitting at a table with people who understand what my goal is, I'm sure a fight like this can be made."

Holyfield is the first champion to speak out against the world bodies that put their interests before those of boxing. He said: "We do not need to have all these different titles out there . . . We need to form a new organisation that doesn't just work for itself, but for boxing as well. We need to come together and have one champion in each weight division. We need the best to fight the best.

"I know my years are limited. This fight [against Moorer] and maybe another fight. After I beat Lennox Lewis, I'm going to sit with you guys in a press conference and tell you what I'm going to do."

It is not difficult to understand Holyfield's desire to end the confusion caused by the various world bodies for, if a bout with Lewis is delayed, he has the prospect of meeting the winner of an eliminator between Henry Akinwande and Orlin Norris. The latter was a failure as a cruiserweight and Akinwande did not even have the nerve to put up a fight against Lewis.

Those who believe in Holyfield's ideals and that boxing should be a sport once again and not just the preserve of promoters, must hope that he can avenge his defeat by Moorer 3½ years ago. Moorer's management has already said that they do not intend meeting Lewis, no doubt realising what the outcome would be. They would clearly rather wait for Tyson to get his licence back.

Even though Moorer would present few problems for Lewis, he could prove an awkward obstacle for Holyfield, who has difficulty dealing with southpaws. Holyfield looked in magnificent shape on Tuesday, when he did a light workout, but in the two rounds he sparred against a southpaw, he did not impress.

It was not surprising to hear Holyfield say: "I realised that Tyson's style was made for me. I knew I could beat him all the time. If I had to pick someone to fight I would pick him, even as tough as he is. He would be a lot easier for me than other people that don't hit as hard and have a more awkward style."

Holyfield maintained that it was Moorer's negative attitude in their previous contest that cost him the bout. "I look at the last fight and I think I beat myself. If he wasn't doing anything, I wasn't doing anything. I get frustrated with guys who don't come to win."

Don Turner, Holyfield's trainer, said he did not believe that Moorer was a true southpaw but rather a boxer who had been "turned round" to compensate for a weak left hand. He believed that Holyfield would have little difficulty dealing with him.

Turner said: "You're talking 3½ years ago. Michael Moorer was at his best, Evander at his worst. Now you will see the best of Holyfield."

Nevada commission offers Tyson glimmer of hope

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

BOXING officials yesterday told Mike Tyson he must prove to the world that he has truly repented of the ear-biting fiasco, which ended his second bout with Evander Holyfield, before he can be allowed back into the ring.

Tyson, who was suspended after being disqualified by the referee, Mills Lane, has said that he doubts that the Nevada State Athletic Commission will ever let him fight again.

Elias Ghanem, chairman of the commision, and Marc Ratner, its executive director, both said yesterday that Tyson had no grounds for feeling that way.

"The commission has not talked about him or his suspension and we don't know what we're going to do," Ghanem said. "A lot depends on his behaviour the rest of the way.

"Mike Tyson has to prove to the commission, and the rest of the world, that he has rehabilitated himself. He has to admit to the terrible thing he did that night. He has to make a 180-degree turn." Tyson, who has apologised to Holyfield, is recovering from a broken rib and punctured lung, injuries he received last week as a result of a motorcycle accident in Connecticut. He can appeal against his suspension next July.

Holyfield has said that he has forgiven Tyson. "He did it out of anger," Holyfield said. "Pressure makes people react like that when they're not accustomed to pressure. I love him. I forgive him."

Oliver McCall, the former World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, made a triumphant return in Nashville late on Tuesday by beating Bryan Tayes on a technical knockout in the eighth round.

The bout was stopped when Yates went down after a series of jabs. Earlier in the round he had lost his gumshield after being hit by a barrage of uppercuts and hooks. He had been knocked down twice in the fifth round.

McCall was suspended and fined $250,000 (about £150,000) after refusing to put up a fight against Lennox Lewis in Las Vegas last February but Nevada officials voted last month to end his supension, making him eligible to fight in any state that approved his comeback.

His $3 million purse for the Lewis fight is still tied up in legal proceedings. The promoters, Main Events Incorporated, are claiming part of it, saying that McCall breached his obligation to "give an honest exhibition of his skills".

HBO, the cable television network which screened the fight, also seeks the return of the $3 million it paid for the rights, claiming it did not get what it paid for.

McCall has appealed to the Third US Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia but a ruling is not expected until next year.

McCall said yesterday that he wanted a chance to redeem himself against Lewis. "I want him again, I don't care how long it takes. I know I should be heavyweight champion of the world."

McCall was arrested twice in 1996 for drug possession and has been in and out of drug rehabilitation. He was arrested in Nashville for vandalism, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after he threw a glass and a Christmas tree in a hotel lobby and spat on a police car.

He was ordered to a Virginia mental hospital in March this year after his wife took out an emergency custody order against him.

11/1 Wise to Score First?

Chelsea meet Tromso in tonight's Cup Winners Cup clash, eager to avenge their first leg defeat in the Arctic Circle. For all the prices on tonight's live match call into any of our shops or bet by 'phone.

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William HILL

LIVE! CUP WINNERS CUP ACTION

1/6 CHELSEA 9/2 DRAW TROMSO 11/1

Stamford Bridge, Kick-off 7.45pm, Live on CH5 TV.

CORRECT SCORE

CHELSEA	SCORE TO BE	TROMSO
10/1	1-0	18/1
8/1	2-0	50/1
14/1	2-1	40/1
7/1	3-0	100/1
10/1	3-1	100/1
66/1	3-2	100/1
10/1	0-0	10/1
9/1	1-1	9/1
28/1	2-2	28/1

Other scores on request.

DOUBLE RESULT

H/TIME	F/TIME	
CHELSEA	CHELSEA	4/11
CHELSEA	DRAW	16/1
CHELSEA	TROMSO	50/1
DRAW	CHELSEA	5/1
DRAW	DRAW	10/1
DRAW	TROMSO	33/1
TROMSO	CHELSEA	28/1
TROMSO	DRAW	16/1
TROMSO	TROMSO	25/1

Bets void if 2nd half not started.

FIRST CHELSEA G/SCORER

5/2 ZOLA
3/1 VIALLI
7/2 FLO
7/1 DI MATTEO
9/1 LE BOUEF
11/1 WISE
16/1 NEWTON
25/1 DUBERRY
28/1 SINCLAIR
5/1 NO CHELSEA G/SCORER

Other players on request. Own goals do not count.

All above bets, extra time does not count.

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هكذا من الاصل

PAUL COUSANS

Thirty-three years after his last day off from training, Hill, the former Olympian, pounds out the miles on the moors above Burnley

The comic idea that ran and ran

BRYANT'S EYE

If you're a serious sportsman or woman, can you remember the last time you took a day off? Ron Hill can. It was December 20, 1964. He has not missed a day's training since. Christmas Days, birthdays, holidays — for nearly 33 years they have all been running days for him. The last time he didn't get out there and run, the Tokyo Olympics had just ended and the House of Commons voted to abolish the death penalty.

Hill is a runner, one of the greatest this country has ever produced, and last Sunday he celebrated exactly 12,000 days of non-stop training by trotting round a ten-mile race in the Lake District.

His time for the Derwent Water 10 was modest enough at 73min 42sec, but Hill is now 59 and when his legs were nearly new he made it to three Olympic Games. He was twice the England cross-country champion, he won gold medals in the marathon at the European and Commonwealth Games, he was the only Briton to win the Boston Marathon and he set world records at 10 miles, 15 miles and 25 kilometres.

So why does he go on running so relentlessly now that his glory days are over? What drives him to perpetual motion? The secret may well lie in his earliest sporting inspiration. Ron Hill's boyhood hero was not some famous international star but a fictional character from a comic strip.

The man who fired his imagination was Alf Tupper, "The Tough of the Track", who defied all-comers every Thursday in the pages of the *Rover* — living off fish and chips, training in the dark and rain, keeping his tattered kit in a brown paper carrier bag and, above all, *never* giving up.

"He was the sort of character I could admire," Hill said, "an underprivileged lad who could always beat the toffee noses from Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever went wrong, he always succeeded through his own determination."

Half a century on, you get the impression that there is some part of Hill that is forever Alf Tupper, for some of the tales of how he has kept his non-stop running streak going are straight from the pages of the *Rover*. There was the time that Hill had to have surgery on a knee, so swollen that it took an hour of warming up to get it to bend. Hill ran the morning of the operation, of course. The day after, without telling his doctors, he dragged his heavily bandaged leg out for a one-mile shuffle. Three weeks later a doctor doubted if he would ever run on the knee again. "But I was already up to three miles twice a day," Hill said. "I just hadn't told him."

Crazy and painful — but the unbroken sequence of training endured. Then there was the head-on car crash. "I was driving on a narrow road when a car coming towards me tried to overtake on a blind bend," Hill said. "My car was a write-off. I broke the sternum bone in my chest and my heart was bruised. Fortunately, I'd already run that morning.

"The hospital released me next day because my wife and my mother were home to look after me. But when they went shopping I was able to sneak out, find a flat stretch of road and hobble a 12-minute mile. Nobody knew I was running for a week."

He has hopped off trains to run on platforms and left planes in Paris, Alaska and Tokyo to squeeze in runs between flights. "Once on the way back from Haiti, at a stopover in Barbados, they called my flight while I was out running. My wife had to board without me. They were on the Tarmac, taxiing for take-off, when I appeared."

Hill first started recording his runs in September 1956 and by yesterday morning he had covered 133,924½ miles. He shrugs off illness and injury as if they do not exist. Nothing stops him.

Here he is logging a typical progress report in 1986. "My right knee is sore, my left hamstring hurts, my lower back sometimes cracks, giving me shooting pains down my legs, and most worrying of all I have this ache in my lower abdomen which I have had for nearly three months.

"The most likely explanation seems to be a hernia. That could mean a knife job and the end of my 21-year streak, so I run, managing the pain, and hoping that one day it will go away."

By the time he turns 60 next year, Hill plans to have competed in 60 different countries and 2,000 races. He protests that he is not obsessive — "just determined."

He had to be very determined just over three years ago, when his streak seemed certain to be doomed — by a bunion. "I had to have it operated on, which meant six weeks in plaster," he said, "but my son picked me up from hospital and we went straight to a running track. With a couple of sticks I was able to do a mile, though it was difficult to get the running action going."

Even the adventure-mongers who dreamt up Alf Tupper would not have dared this story-line. But for six weeks Hill did a mile every day with one foot in a plaster cast. Somewhere during those never-ending miles, this remarkable athlete had actually turned himself into the Tough of the Track.

JOHN BRYANT

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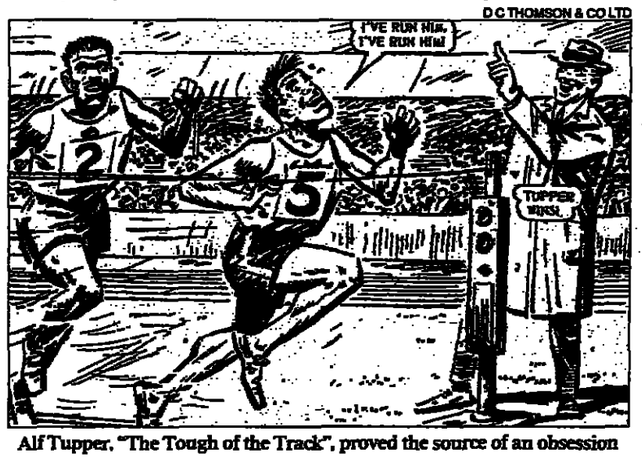


Alf Tupper, "The Tough of the Track", proved the source of an obsession

Was she fishing for cod?

Or fishing for secrets?

Discovered- the lost trawler, 'Gaul'.

Dispatches Tonight 9.00pm

4

RUGBY UNION

New Zealand opt to turn out in strength

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

A CAPACITY crowd at Stradey Park on Saturday will be able to appreciate the skills of the best team in the world when New Zealand field what is, in effect, their international XV against Llanelli in the opening match of their tour. With only two exceptions, it will be the team that secured the tri-nations series in Dunedin in August.

The changes see the restoration of Andrew Mehrtens at fly half, ahead of Carlos Spencer, and Andrew Blowers will play at blind-side flanker, Taine Randell moving across the back row to the exclusion of Zinzan Brooke. Blowers is returning after a season disrupted by a back problem, having given notice of his burgeoning skills at Twickenham last season for the New Zealand Barbarians.

Frano Botica, the former New Zealand fly half, seems certain to miss the game, after damaging a shoulder playing for Llanelli against Cardiff last weekend, but the Welsh club could give Gary French, the Bath hooker who is on a month's loan, a place among their reserves.

England's home international matches this season, and for the next five years, will be shown in full on ITV, which has become the terrestrial partner to BSkyB, the satellite television company part-owned by News International, owner of *The Times*. Matches from Twickenham, and from Paris on February 7 against France, will be screened as live from around 4.15pm.

NEW ZEALANDERS (v Llanelli): C Cullen; J Wilson, F Bunce, A Ieremia, G Osborne; A Mehrtens, J Marshall; C Dowd, S Fitzpatrick, O Brown, I Jones, R Brooke, A Blowers, J Ironfield, T Randell. Replacements: J Stanley, J Preston, Z Brooke, M Cooksley, M Allen, A Oliver.

Sponsor to lend league cup a hand

THE inaugural league cup competition for the leading English clubs received additional status yesterday with the announcement of a sponsor and the confirmation that prize-money — albeit on a limited scale — will be available. Cheltenham and Gloucester will put nearly £1 million into the tournament for the next three years (David Hands writes).

The competition was designed to fill the void of the next month, when international matches hold sway, and initially it was felt that the first division clubs might field development XVs. Five clubs — Bath, Harlequins, Newcastle, Saracens and Wasps — chose not to enter because they felt that international demands would place too great a strain on their playing resources.

Cambridge University were invited to make the number of participants up to 20, though their standing is that of a guest club, and, in the unlikely event of their winning the tournament, they would not take the £20,000 prize-money. "It's up to each club to decide the strength of the team they put out," Kim Deshayes, the chief executive of the English Rugby Partnership, said.

Matches take place over international weekends and will be timed to avoid a direct clash with England fixtures; pool matches begin on November 14.

CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP: Pool A: Northampton, Gloucester, West Hartlepool, Wakefield, Fylde. Pool B: Leicester, London Irish, Orrell, Rotherham, Exeter. Pool C: Sale, Bristol, Coventry, Moseley, Waterloo. Pool D: Richmond, Bedford, London Scottish, Blackheath, Cambridge University.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

HEFFALUMP
(b) A child's word for an elephant, coined by A. A. Milne. Now commonly in adult use.

NITTO
(b) Australian criminals' slang meaning "stop!", "be quiet". From "nit" a word used as a signal that someone is approaching. "You guys better nitto. The Sparrow's got a line to your run-in."

HAMEL
(b) A wether. South African from the Dutch *hamel*, German *hammel*, a castrated ram. "Would your father have let me die rather than take a hamel from the flock of a rich, lazy Boer, who never counts his sheep?"

NARRISCHKEIT
(c) Foolishness, nonsense: that which is of no consequence. From the Yiddish word. *Punch*, 1963: "The piece of narrischkeit currently being serialised."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Rxe2! 2 Rxe2 (2 Qa8+ Kf7 3 Qa7+ Re7 wins) 2 ... Bxg2+! 3 Kxg2 Qd5+ mating

TELEVISION CHOICE

A missing girl mystery

The Bill: The Accomplice
ITV, 8.00pm

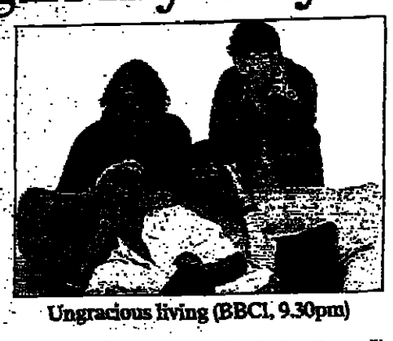
A double-bill for the price of a single is always good news — which is not to undermine the series' neat encapsulations of complicated tales in their usual half hours. Of course, spreading the load can mean a loss of tension but this is not the case in Tony Mulholland's intriguing mix of sex and potential murder. It involves the disappearance of a 15-year-old schoolgirl with clues which develop a picture of young Vicky startlingly at odds with her parents' belief that she is a goody-two-shoes. Pictures of her in provocative poses put her boyfriend, a sleazy photographer ("she told me she was 19") firmly in the frame. But then DC Carver (Mark Wingett) realises that the case has the hallmarks of a known rapist, now behind bars, and the plot thickens in all kinds of unexpected ways.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The series returns with a one-hour special on the mysterious disappearance of the Hull-based trawler, the *Gaul*. Think back. Remember how that sturdy ship apparently sank without trace more than 23 years ago? Her 36-strong crew were reported lost in severe Arctic conditions in February 1974 but there were no distress signals and no bodies found. Indeed there has never been a satisfactory explanation as to why a modern fishing vessel built to withstand Arctic conditions should simply disappear. And here's the programme's scoop: it has located the wreck and actually filmed it on the seabed off Norway — close to strategic Soviet naval bases around Murmansk. It seems, in spite of official denials, that civilian fishing vessels were used to spy on the Soviet navy — and that the *Gaul* was one of them.

Men Behaving Badly
BBC1, 9.30pm

Inexorably the series — this is the sixth — is moving on. There are definite signs, albeit fleeting, that Gary (Martin Clunes) *might* at last be looking favourably on a bit of knot-tying with the stoical Dorothy (Caroline Quentin). And of course sex-starved Tony (Neil Morrissey) would do anything — even marry — if Deborah (Leslie Ash) would only let him into her bed. But the farthest Gary will go towards actually sitting down and organising anything is planning his stag night. "Nothing too sleazy, though, that's a bit of a cliché . . ." How will it all end? Fairly predictably, it has to be said. But there is one unexpected twist: Tony gets a job involving rubber — rubber baths for home birthing underwater. The upshot of this remarkable turn of events is really rather touching — at least Debs seems to think so . . .



Ungracious living (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Streets of Fire: Teamwork
Channel 4, 10.00pm

For this punchy, scary and ultimately brilliant three-part series on Baltimore firefighters, director Paul Berriff had to pass a trial-by-fire with the Baltimore Fire Academy and don 70lbs of equipment to go into the flames and smoke carrying his camera. Baltimore (Maryland), with a largely black population of 650,000, was chosen because its poverty and drug-related crime are among the worst in the US and its 48 fire stations — who answer calls within 90 seconds — among the busiest. Only half the firefighters' work is putting out fires: Berriff covers a shoot-out, a miscarriage, a policeman trapped in his car and a woman who deliberately runs down her husband and little boy — the latter getting on-the-spot counselling from the fire chief. But there are certainly fires — 60,000 of them a year — and the city looks bombed out.

Elizabeth Cowley

RADIO CHOICE

First Person Plural
Radio 4, 9.30am

This series of audio diaries on a different subject each week today reaches the vexed area of teaching people to be funny, one of the most serious businesses there is, to judge by the programme. Sixteen hopefuls retreat to Devon, where they are taught the essentials of comic writing by Simon Nye (*Men Behaving Badly*) and Sue Teddern (*Birds of a Feather*). Audio diaries were kept by both the tutors and by two of the students, David Lassman and Christine Haysom. By the end of the week, after some pretty rocky moments, there is a sense of optimism as the students carry off floppy disks full of wit. But the proof is in the eating: perhaps the producers will revisit the group to see if any of them made the grade.

Document: The Greatest Hangover in History
Radio 4, 7.20pm

The first in a new series of the programme that often confounds conventional views of history, not so much with any great new revelation but simply by examining the established facts in a more careful manner than is often the case with potted history. Tonight the subject is the Russian Revolution, an event which even now is characterised by apologists as some great and romantic overturning of barbarism. In fact the Bolsheviks launched what was essentially a disorganised and crime-ridden coup d'état. The wine cellars of the Tsar in St Petersburg proved to be the source of much of the trouble, for they were "liberated" by so-called revolutionaries who were soon reduced to a brawling mob. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearce 6.15 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session 8.30 Movie Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 David Aaronovitch 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 David Allan's Country Club 8.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Soul Provider 9.30 The News Huddlines 10.00 The Comedy Quiz: A new series. 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Thursday Match. Chelsea v Tromso in the European Cup Winners Cup 9.30 On the Line 10.00 The Battle for Cyberspace. A discussion on the future of computer technology. With Rhod Sharp and the boss of Sun Microsystems, Scott McNealy 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours By-Election Special 2.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Bene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Calvin Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raeburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Meridian Books 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: The Colour of Blood 7.30 Composer of the Month 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Westway 8.30 The Ed Stewart Show 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Poems by Post 9.30 BBC English: Business File 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Discovery 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 History Today 11.45 From Our Own Correspondent 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Record News 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack X-Press 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Vintage Chart Show 4.00 Europe Today 4.15 Record News 4.30 The World Today; News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Assignment; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News Summary 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 John Peel 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Books 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 John Peel 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Westway 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Composer of the Week 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Focus on Faith 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann. Including Morning March and Breakfast Baroque 9.00 Henry Kelly. Michael Barry's Classic Recipe is spice island drumsticks. Plus, the Classic Masterpiece 1.00pm Listener Request Hour. Presented by Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Mendelssohn (Piano Concerto No 1 in G minor) 3.00 Nick Bailey 7.00 Newsnight. Presented by John Brunning 7.30 Sonata. Schumann (Children's Sonata No 2 in D) 8.00 Evening Concert. Glazunov (Saxophone Concerto); Richard Strauss (Violin Sonata); Rachmaninov (Symphony No 3 in A minor) 10.00 Michael Mappin. Includes 11.35 Nocturne 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Mozart (Concertone in C for two violins); Webern (Im Sommerwind); Chausson (Chanson Perpetuelle); Vivaldi (Concerto in G for two mandolins); Beethoven (Overture Fidelio); Tchaikovsky (Suite: Swan Lake)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Elgar (Overture Alassio, In the South); Chopin (Four Mazurkas); Maurice Emmanuel (Chansons Bourguignonnes); Boyce (Symphony No 8 in D minor)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mark Rowlinson. Bridge (Suite The Sea); Debussy (Estampes); John Luther Adams (The Time of Drumming); Sibelius (Swim, Suck, Swim); Schubert (Piano Quintet in A, Trout); Tallis (Honor Virtus Et Potestas)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Vaughan Williams
1.00pm Verismo Voices. Gordon Stewart presents a series which explore Italian Verismo. Includes excerpts from *La Boheme, Iris, Manon, Lescaut, Lodoletta, Turandot* and *La Wally*. The singers include Te Kanawa, Tebaldi, De los Angeles, Eva Turner, Claudia Muzio, Freni, Callas, Di Stefano and Carreras (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vanska, with Tasmin Little, violin. Sibelius (The Wood Nymph); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Sibelius (Symphony No 5)
4.00 Ensemble. A recital by Graham Scott, piano. Mozart (Piano Sonata in A, KS31); Franck (Prelude, Chorale and Fugue) (r)
4.45 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson
5.00 In Tune. Sean Rafferty discusses the top ten classical recordings in Hong Kong
7.30 Performance on 3. A concert given in February at the Accademia Santa Cecilia in Rome. BBC Symphony Orchestra under Pierre Boulez. With Ewa Malas-Godlewska, Helene Perraguin, Jean-Luc Chaignaud, Wendy Hoffman, Askar Abdrazakov, Neal Davies, Wolfgang Bunten, and the BBC Symphony Chorus. Stravinsky (The Nightingale; Le Rol des Etoiles)
9.30 Postscript: Ulysses (Sounding the Century). The scholar David Norris and the American novelist Robert Coover reflect on Joyce's experiments with form (4/5)
10.00 Music Restored. From the York Early Music Festival, a concert given in July in the Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, University of York, by I Fagiolini: Anna Crookes and Carys Lane, sopranos, Richard Wyn Roberts, countertenor, Hugh Wilson and Nicholas Hurndall Smith, tenors, Matthew Brook and Robert Hollingworth, basses. William Cornysh (Woefully Array'd); Anon (A la Fontaine du Pres); Adrian Willaert (A la Fontaine du Pres, Kyrie; Sanctus); Mateo de Flecha (El Fuego); Adrian Williams (A Smile and Ashes)
10.45 Night Waves. Humphrey Carpenter discusses David King's *The Commissar Vanishes*, which uncovers Stalin's manipulation of photographs
11.30 Composer of the Week: Dussek (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) **Shipping Forecast** 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Face the Facts**, with John Waite
9.30 **First Person Plural.** See Choice (4/4)
10.00 (LW) **Daily Service**
10.15 (LW) **On This Day**, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.00 (FM) **News; A Caribbean Mystery.** Agatha Christie's novel, dramatised by Michael Bakewell. Starring June Whitfield as Miss Marple. With George A. Cooper and Yvonne Edgell (2/5)
10.30 **Woman's Hour.** Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 **From Our Own Correspondent.** News from BBC reporters around the world
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm **Inspiration.** A new series of the programme in which inventions, discoveries and design are subjected to quizzical investigation. Chairman Chris Stuart is joined at the Science Museum by team captains Professor Lewis Wolpert and Adam Hart-Davis and guests Sue Nelson and Johnny Ball (1/6) 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Thursday Afternoon Play: The Grey Man**, by Gill Adams. With James Bolam and Rachel Davies (r)
3.00 **News; Afternoon Shift**, with Daire Brehan
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope.** Paul Allen sees a new play, *Tongue of a Bird*, at London's Almeida Theatre, and talks to the film director Wim Wenders
4.45 **Short Story: The Pig's Squeal**, by John E. Stuckey, read by Robert Harper (r)
5.00 **PM**, with Clare English and Charlie Lee-Potter
5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **On the Town with the League of Gentlemen.** A new sketch show. Written by and starring Mark Gatiss, Reece Shearsmith, Steve Pemberton and Jeremy Dyson
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **Document: The Greatest Hangover in History.** See Choice (1/6)
8.00 **Analysis: Rights from Europe.** Brendan O'Leary looks at the impact of the incorporation into British law of the European Convention on Human Rights
8.45 **Pen Friendly.** Pernille Rygg in Oslo writes to Toby Litt in London about her impossible quest for the perfect sofa (6/6)
9.00 **Does He Take Sugar?** With Frederick Dove
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Robin Lustig
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Laughter in the Dark**, by Vladimir Nabokov, read by David Horovitch (9/10)
11.00 **Thirty Minute Theatre: Fergus the Big Kiss**, by Phelim Rowland. With Stephen Hogan, Frank McCusker and Tony Rohr
11.30 (LW) **Today in Parliament**
11.30 (FM) **Offspring.** Another look at the mysteries of family life with John Peel (r)
12.00 **News** 12.30am **The Late Book: Funny Boy.** Gary Pillai reads Shyam Selvadurai's story (4/10)
12.48 (LW) **Shipping Forecast** 1.00 **As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

For Bath butlers, a stitch in time saves 15

REVIEW

Joe Joseph

What luck for the All Blacks that they arrived in Britain in the nick of *time to catch last night's final* episode of **The Rugby Club** (BBC2), which means they stole a valuable glimpse of the hitherto secret tactic that makes British rugby so feared and admired the world over: complimentary sewing kits (including spare buttons and a little thimble). Yes, yes, I *know* it sounds obvious, but the obvious things are the ones we simpletons always fail to notice.

Why else would the topic of complimentary sewing kits have featured so large in the management pow-wow that Bath's new bosses held last spring to try to *work out why Bath* — once the kings of amateur rugby — were ending their first professional season *in 1996 as court jesters?*

At the pow-wow, Stephen Hands, Bath's new director of *marketing, unveils something that* will restore the team's fortunes. What? What? Better players? A new grandstand? No: a "premium-quality shirt" with a "classic Bath rugby feel". He doesn't say what a "classic Bath rugby feel" is, although it sounds painful. The office shirt will come in a fancy box, banded with Bath's club logo. *Inside the box will be* — tarantara — the complimentary sewing kit, because this is the sort of shirt, *said Hands, that you give to "your* butler" to sew back any loose buttons. If I were a butler, I think I'd advise Mr Hands *to buy the* sort of "premium-quality shirt" from which the buttons don't fall off in the first place.

Still, it is endearing to see a marketing director who has not yet turned into one of those jaded, world-weary travellers who have collected enough hotel sewing kits to re-embroider the Bayeux tapestry from beginning to end if *someone asked them politely.*

As he unveils his brainwave, Hands is fizzing like a boy opening presents on Christmas morning. His fellow directors look like parents trying to feign enough surprise to suggest that they, too, are seeing that new Lego set for the first time. "It's a totally premium product," Hands is gushing, "but *bought by somebody who isn't* necessarily a rugby fan. This is really a completely incremental *income channel.*"

Not being a professional *rugby player, I am not* exactly sure what a "completely incremental income channel" is. But I have a nagging feeling that it may well have been the search for a "completely incremental income channel" that did for many of the people we saw in **Prison Weekly** (BBC2), the first of a six-part magazine programme about what goes on behind bars. If the producers' thinking behind *this series was that Porridge and Prisoner Cell Block H* still left gaps in most people's knowledge of real prison life, they were right.

For example, explaining why it was such good value to spend £11 million on refitting HMP Weare, a prison ship on which the inmates bicker about who gets the sea view, Colette Kershaw, the governor of Cookham Wood prison, said that it worked out much cheaper than spending "£1,000 per prisoner per night in police cells". *£1,000!* You could pay these lags £300,000 a year not to reoffend and the State would still be in pocket.

At Doncaster prison, they have instituted a novel anti-bullying scheme. "You will wear a green T-shirt," the latest culprit was told by John O'Brien, the prisons operations manager, "to denote the fact that you are a bully."

What a brilliant idea. But why stop at prisons? Why not expand this programme beyond prison walls, assigning specific colours to specific characteristics? Brown for bores; cerise for sneaks; green for gossips; blue for back-stabbers; grey for gropers. Think how much time we would all save.

But for the most improbable insight into prison life, we had to wait for the poet Benjamin Zephaniah's appearance in the programme's "famous ex-cons" slot. *Men, understandably, miss female company when doing time.* Many reach a point where the slightest trigger can send them wild with erotic desire. Zephaniah's trick was to stroke his girlfriend's neck, when she visited him, so that his hand carried the scent of her perfume. He would later sell a sniff of his hand for 10p, or for a cigarette. Lord knows how excited Stephen Hands at Bath is going to get when he hears about *this wheeze. Which would fetch the* higher price: a sniff of Jeremy Guscott, or of Phil de Glanville?

A different enlightenment came in *Bystanders*, Nicholas O'Dwyer's haunting film for **Modern Times** (BBC2), which shone its light on the many ways in which an attacker's punch leaves scars on people who were never his victims.

"I'd like to ask her forgiveness for walking away," said Barney Seifert, a broken man who is still *tormented by the memory of how* he saw a woman being violently assaulted 17 years ago, and did nothing. He has lost his self-respect. How badly was she beaten? Was she killed? Seifert doesn't know. The incident has blotted his long life like an ink stain. "The only thing I have is that I don't have many years left, and that will be the end of it . . . rather a sad way of ending one's life, isn't it?"

Victims, too, carry invisible scars. When Phyllis Collins, a retired civil servant, was tormented with lighted cigarettes on a train to Preston, what jolted her was that none of the 60 other passengers in the carriage lifted a finger. Why not? "If you're looking for help," one of her attackers hissed as she tried to summon support with her eyes, "don't bother. *They won't come and help* you. Nobody does these days."

Not even if you entice them with a *complimentary sewing kit.*

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (95273)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (83167)
9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (5975322)
9.25 Style Challenge (5994457)
9.50 Kilroy (T) (9520029)
10.30 Change That (2333231)
10.55 The Really Useful Show with Tony Morris and Ruth Langsford (T) (7272761)
11.35 Real Rooms (3255102)
12.00 News (T) regional news and weather (6662693)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (7216231)
12.35 Going for a Song (2881490)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather (86254)
1.30 Regional News (T) and weather (84702902)
1.40 The Weather Show (59260167)
1.45 Neighbours Fists fly between Billy and Lance (T) (97115032)
2.10 Quincy (r) (2367761)
3.00 World on a Plate (T) (2761)
3.30 Funnybones (r) (1543964) **3.35** Playdays (r) (8532896) **3.55** The Silver Brumby (8536612) **4.20** Mr Wymi (T) (9332186) **4.35** Smart (T) (1159525) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5890148) **5.10** Byker Grove (T) (9741148)
5.35 Neighbours (294457)
6.00 Six O'Clock News and weather (983)
6.30 Regional News (T) (235)
7.00 Watchdog with Anne Robinson Consumer magazine with Alice Beer, Liz Kershaw, Johnathan Maitland, John Nicolson and Andy Webb (T) (7070)
7.30 EastEnders Joe pours out his troubles to Grant, who offers him the benefit of his *experience with women* (T) (419)
8.00 Animal Hospital A tawny owl is rushed to Harmsworth after being hit by a car *travelling at high speed* (T) (3490)
8.30 Birds of a Feather First-ever episode of the comedy with Pauline Quirke, Linda Robson and Lesley Joseph (r) (T) (2525)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) regional news and weather (1877)
9.30 [redacted] **Men Behaving Badly** New series. Gary decides to make an honest woman of Dorothy (T) (40051)
10.00 They Think It's All Over New series. Snooker star Steve Davis and chef *Ainsley Harriott join the regular team* players David Gower, Gary Lineker, Lee Hurst and Rory McGrath for the return of the light-hearted sports quiz (34902)
10.30 Clive Anderson All Talk with Robbie Coltrane and Hollywood's highest-paid actress, Demi Moore, here promoting *GI Jane* (10322)
11.00 Question Time Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development, Cheryl Gillan, the Conservative Trade and Industry spokeswoman, the journalist Paul Foot and the historian David Starkey join David Dimbleby for political discussion from London (T) (852438)
12.05am By-Election Special Result and analysis from the Paisley South by-election, until approximately **3.00** Weather (12646281)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
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BBC2

6.00am The Chemistry of Power (16254) **6.30** Easing the Pain (56525) **7.00** See Hear News (T) (3587029)
7.15 Teletubbies (r) (4346032) **7.40** Smurfs' Adventures (r) (2620273) **8.05** Blue Peter (r) (T) (2200070) **8.30** Mouse and Mole (r) (9004322) **8.35** Johnson and Friends (r) (4908896) **8.45** The Record (9996051) **9.10** Numbertime (5993029) **9.25** Megamaths (T) (2580506) **9.45** Come Outside (4883780) **10.00** Teletubbies (47877) **10.30** Storytime (2967439) **10.45** The Experimenter (2702148) **11.05** Space Ark (8622070) **11.15** Zig Zag (1917983) **11.35** English File (6463952) **11.55** Lifeschool (8368588) **12.20pm** Showcase (6880099) **12.25** Firework Safety (6872070)
12.30 Working Lunch (68457)
1.00 Barney (r) (93491362) **1.05** Monty (r) (94841803) **1.10** The Art and Antiques Hour (6733964) **2.10** Going, Going, Gone (98479631) **2.35** Really Useful Show (3748051) **2.40** News (3745964) **2.45** Westminster (7402693) **3.25** News (8340070) **3.30** The Village (8726099) **3.55** Really Useful Show (8560964) **4.00** Ready, Steady, Cook (148) **4.30** Through the Keyhole (r) (1158896) **4.55** Esther (9998051) **5.30** Today's the Day (612)
6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (T) (179344)
6.45 Hit, Miss or Maybe (618709)
7.00 The Whitbread: The World's Greatest Ocean Race Preview of the dangers *facing crews on the Southern Ocean leg* (5612)
7.30 First Sight: Autism (761) (London only)
8.00 Just One Chance The consumer's guide to education this week explores the work of "playground guru" Jenny Mosley (1032) **WALES:** Franco and Friends
8.30 Top Gear BMW's new R1200C cruiser and Citroen's hatchback, the Xsara (T) (8457)
9.00 Third Rock from the Sun Sally leaps at the chance to marry a hunky Frenchman (408490)

Geologist Bryan Storey (9.25pm)

9.25 Horizon: Antarctica The mystery of how the ice-covered continent was formed (2/3) (T) (421273)
10.15 10x10 Kathleen Byron on her performance as Sister Ruth in *Black Narcissus*. Last in series (803341)
10.28 Shark Bites (342815)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (549099) **11.15** Late Review (874457) **11.55** Weather (726254) **12.00** Phil Silvers (b/w) (42991)
12.30am Learning Zone: Sally Gunnell (5971868) **12.35** Architecture (9316939) **1.00** LA: City of the Future (30858) **2.00** Who Learns Wins (19484) **4.00** Teaching Film and Media (78552) **4.30** Film Education (77842) **5.00** Teacher Training (22804) **5.30** Teaching and Learning with IT (43620)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4447612)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (5970877)
9.55 Regional News and weather (6497506)
10.00 The Time, the Place (67631)
10.30 This Morning (T) (48766051)
12.20pm Regional News (6668877)
12.30 News (T) and weather (2617815)
12.55 Shortland Street (2692506)
1.25 Home and Away Rebecca gets her *hearing back* (T) (54544379)
1.50 Cuisine (T) (97121693)
2.20 Vanessa (T) (96453693)
2.50 The Fashion Police (T) (8033167)
3.20 News (T) (8345525)
3.25 Regional News (T) (8344896)
3.30 Potamus Park (3269544) **3.40** Wizadora (1558896) **3.50** Kipper (1547780) **4.00** The Adventures of Dawdle (9307490) **4.15** Jumanji (T) (7014362) **4.40** Out of Sight (T) (9205525)
5.10 A Country Practice (T) (9203099) Followed by Crimestoppers
5.40 News (T) and weather (437235)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (271032)
6.25 Regional Weather (180341)
6.30 Regional News (T) (631)
7.00 Emmerdale The Woolpackers go on a surprise trip (T) (9438)
7.30 WALES: Wales This Week (815)
7.30 The Big Story (815)

Butcher and Chakrabarti (8.00pm)

8.00 [redacted] **The Bill: Accomplice** A serial killer's past helps Carver find a missing teenage girl. With Lolita Chakrabarti and Tom Butcher (T) (6051)
9.00 Thief Takers: One Last Hurrah The squad go undercover at a society wedding where gangs are massing for a *shoot-out* (T) (6815)
10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (29070)
10.30 Regional News and weather (792877)
10.40 WALES: The Ferret (886032)
10.40 Crimestoppers Special (886032)
11.15 WALES: The Big Story (934032)
11.15 Charlie Grace: The Kid (337341)
11.45 WALES: Tropical Heat Nick saves a woman's life, only to become the object of her deadly obsession (r) (472148)
12.10am Short Story Cinema (5440804)
12.35 The LADS (9102571)
1.10 Funny Business (5976113)
1.40 The Loop (r) (8876303)
2.05 Planet Rock Profiles (3488674)
2.35 Late and Loud (r) (2575216)
3.30 The Good Sex Guide. . . Late (r) (3369194)
4.25 Curtis Calls (40958303)
4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (93908552)
5.00 Garden Calendar (T) (22858)
5.30 News (43674)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.54pm Air Watch (19446709)
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2692506)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9203099)
5.59-6.00 Air Watch (935728)
6.25 Central News (289051)
6.55-7.00 Lifeline (135051)
10.40 Crimestalker (281588)
11.40 The Young Jazz Musician of the Year (460506)
12.45am Funny Business (42533)
1.15 Planet Mirth (6996668)
1.40 Rockmania (9821113)
2.40 God's Gift (6155113)
3.30 Late and Loud (15804)
4.30 Central Jobfinder '97 (2216991)
5.20 Asian Eye (9565620)

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (7696167)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (79796167)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9203099)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (63902)
10.30 Westcountry News (716457)
10.45 On the Edge (944419)
11.15 Power Game (934032)
11.45 Movie Magic (472148)
4.30am The Time, the Place (71668)

As HTV West except:
5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (9203099)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (821)
6.30-7.00 Rural Rides (631)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (716457)
10.45 Unsolved (944419)
11.15 A406 (934032)
11.45 Highlander (472148)
4.35am Beyond Reason (93908552)
5.00 Freescreen (22858)

As HTV West except:
12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6670612)
12.55-1.25 The Making of a Game Show (2692506)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9203099)
6.23 Anglia Weather (181070)
6.25 Anglia News (289051)
6.55-7.00 What's On (135051)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (339341)
10.30 Anglia News and Weather (716457)
10.45 Film: Falling from Grace (1991). A drama starring John Mellencamp and Mariel Hemingway (38252815)

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (76877) **9.00 Yagollon** (939490) **11.30 Powerhouse** (8780) **12.00 Sesame Street** (26983) **12.30pm Ricki Lake** (53525) **1.00 Slot Melthrin** (90266998) **1.15 Wil Cwac Cwac** (30924713) **1.30 Blind Man's Bluff** (84786964) **1.45 Film: *Crooks in Cloisters*** (74129898) **3.30 Collector's Lot** (709) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (544) **4.30 The Lonely Planet** (728) **5.00 5 Pump** (3524) **5.30 Countdown** (780) **6.00 Newyddion** (644964) **6.10 Heno** (474916) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (309709) **7.25 Penblwydd Hapus** (674896) **8.00 Os Byw Ac Iach** (6728) **8.30 Newyddion** (5235) **9.00 Heliwr: Grym Gwaed** (7780) **11.00 Dispatches** (89341) **12.00 Bombay Blue** (31552) **1.00am-2.45 Film: Vanished Without Trace** (709465)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (88983) **7.00** The Big *Breakfast* (76877)
9.00 Schools: History in Action (2596167) **9.20** Geographical Eye (T) (2509631) **9.40** *The Maths Programme* (T) (7048186) **10.00** Middle English (T) (4212803) **10.15** Le Petit Monde de Pierre (7662524) **10.30** Scientific Eye (T) (2707893) **10.50** Film and Video *Showcase* (2727457) **11.10** The Spanish Programme (1903780)
11.30 Powerhouse Politics (T) (8780)
12.00 Sesame Street (26983) **12.30pm** Light Lunch (56341) **1.30** Gardens Without Borders (r) (84786964) **1.45** Henry Moore (59252148)
1.50 Ring of Spies (1963, b/w) starring FILM *Bernard Lee and William Sylvester.* An espionage drama based on the factual Portland spy scandal. Directed by Robert Tronson (T) (82439612)
3.30 Collector's Lot (T) (709) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (544) **4.30** Countdown (T) (1143964) **4.55** Ricki Lake (T) (9990419) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (780)
6.00 Boy Meets World *Rites-of-passage* comedy (T) (202902)
6.25 Fresh Pop (188983)
6.30 Hollyoaks Dawn and Jambo try to come to terms with bad news (T) (273)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (678790)
7.50 Whose Choice?: Mixed Feelings A woman in her forties regrets having an abortion at the age of 16, even though *she has given birth twice since* (755588)
8.00 Lonely Planet Neil Gibson visits Pakistan, where he explores the bustling *streets of Karachi and watches holy men* dance among the shrines of Multan (6/6) (T) (6728)
8.30 United Tastes of America Dorinda Hafner samples Cajun food in New Orleans. Among the dishes she tries are traditional gumbo and alligator stew (3/8) (T) (5235)
9.00 [redacted] *Dispatches The story of the Gaul*, the Hull-based trawler that sank mysteriously more than 23 years ago (T) (4457)

Firefighters in action (10.00pm)

10.00 [redacted] **Streets of Fire** Behind the scenes in the Baltimore City Fire Department (1/3) (T) (2073341)
11.05 Babylon 5 Science fiction adventures. Garibaldi arrives on Mars (16/22) (T) (283326)
12.00 Dope Sheet A magazine series about animation (1/5) (40587)
12.30 am Animation Eight animated shorts (55221129)
2.35 Seven Deadly Sins: Wrath (r) (T) (2819151) **3.05** J'Accuse: Henry Moore (r) (73518129) **3.35** J'Adore: Rudyard Kipling (r) (56943736) **4.05** The Vision Thing (r) (T) (67235755) **4.35** The American Football Big Match (r) (9859571)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (2912693)
7.30 Milkshake (4675235) **7.35** USA High (6076186) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (8025971)
8.30 WideWorld The work of black artists *living in Britain* (15/15) (1942772)
9.00 Espresso Consumer affairs magazine (2964438) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (8054490) **10.30** Instant Gardens (r) (7542916)
11.00 Leeza Chat show chaired by Leeza Gibbons (7619544) **11.50** Double Espresso (94893544) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (3847308) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (8806877)
1.00 5 News Update (95440083) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (3688051) **2.00** 5's Company. Live entertainment show (8663419)
3.30 The Learning Tree (1969) Kyle FILM Johnston, Alex Clarke and Estelle Evans star in this emotional drama set in the Deep South during the 1920s. Based on the autobiographical novel by the film's director, Gordon Parks (2923709)
5.30 Whittle Audience participation quiz (3050099)
6.00 100 Per Cent Game show without a host (3040612)
6.30 Family Affairs Susie is shocked when Holly tells her that she loves her; Pete makes Maria an offer she *cannot refuse* (T) (3031964)
7.00 5 News (T) (5639438)
7.30 European Cup Winners' Cup Football — Live From Stamford Bridge, the second-leg match between Chelsea and Tromso, *with the Norwegians defending a* 3-2 lead. **In the event of extra time and penalties, subsequent programmes may run late** (10286780)
9.50 Bring Me the Head of Light *Entertainment* Comedy panel game (r) (4553457)

Richard Morton performs (10.20pm)

10.20 Comedy Store Special Includes Richard Morton, Arthur Smith and Jo Brand (3494032)
10.50 Not the Jack Docherty Show With Graham Norton (6836273)
11.35 Melrose Place (r) (T) (7391419)
12.30am Live and Dangerous Includes football from the Brazilian and US leagues (21110115)
4.35 The Streets of San Francisco: School of Fear Police drama starring Karl Malden and Michael Douglas (T) (7619113)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2945303)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (353341) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (65544) **10.00** Another World (11964) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (31728) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (94896) **1.00pm** Geraldo (26524) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (99254) **3.00** Jenny Jones (44970) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (99877) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (4525) **6.00** Live 6 Show (4235) **6.30** Married...with Children (6815) **7.00** Simpsons (5254) **7.30** Real TV (4099) **8.00** Suddenly Susan (4902) **8.30** The Nanny (8269) **9.00** Seinfeld (88761) **9.30** Mad About You (95525) **10.00** ER (25780) **11.00** Star Trek: Voyager (12693) **12.00** Late Show (73562) **1.00am** In the Heat of the Night (74262) **2.00** Long Play (5639485)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Summer and Smoke (1961) (56032) **8.00 Goldilocks and the Three Bears (1995)** (83167) **9.30 The Absolute Truth (1996)** (62780) **11.00 A Little Princess (1995)** (40322) **1.00pm Summer and Smoke (1961)** (39606) **3.00 Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors (1985)** (24457) **5.00 Goldilocks and the Three Bears (1995)** (54780) **7.00 A Little Princess (1995)** (18877) **8.00 Panic in the Skies (1996)** (2771903) **10.45 Amanda and the Alien (1995)** (7817073) **12.20am No Contest (1994)** (336281) **2.00 The Raggedy Rawney (1987)** (335639) **3.45 Terminal Voyage (1994)** (74904674)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am Station West (1948) (26325612) **7.45 Red Tops (1995)** (2277726) **9.00 Lancer Spy (1937)** (8441983) **10.20 Lucky Me (1954)** (20230780) **12.00 Never Give Up: The Jimmy V Story (1996)** (99029) **2.00pm Nocturne (1946)** (70985) **3.30 Red Tops (1995)** (5040322) **4.45 The Pebble and the Penguin (1995)** (4830436) **6.00 Legacy of Sin: The William Coit Jnr Story (1995)** (6291902) **8.00 The Birdcage (1996)** (29983) **10.00 Bad Boys (1995)** (95051) **12.00 Emmanuelle 5 (1986)** (9556842) **1.35am White Tiger (1986)** (324303) **3.00 Midnight Heat (1995)** (484194) **4.40 Black Tulip (1988)** (2047113)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Jet Pilot (1957) (1476525) **6.00 The Long Ships (1964)** (2950984) **8.00 The Star Chamber (1983)** (2862709) **10.00 The Dead Pool (1988)** (5947831) **11.30 In Like Flynn (1985)** (2213525) **1.05am Go Tell the Spartans (1978)** (8244484) **3.00 Cherry 2000 (1987)** (8218587) **4.35 Close**

TNT

9.00pm Spymaker: The Secret Life of Ian Fleming (1991) (8970780) **11.00 The Liquidator (1966)** (8472728) **1.00am The Best House in London (1969)** (54323194) **2.45 The Citadel (1938)** (53857133) **5.00 Close**

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (61983) **7.30** Wrestling (13186) **8.30** Sports Centre (61419) **9.00** Racing News (85099) **9.30** Aerobics (12831) **10.00** Rebel Sports (79802) **11.00** Pool (56436) **12.00** Aerobics (85235) **12.30pm** Cricket Max (515693) **3.30** V-Max (6877) **4.00** Futbol Mundial (8812) **4.30** Offshore Powerboats (4886) **5.00** Wrestling (9099) **6.00** Sports Centre (5761) **6.30** Football League Review (5941) **7.00** Ringside (64693) **8.00** Spanish Primera Liga (64457) **10.00** Sports Centre (86984) **10.30** Ringside (59254) **11.30** Offshore Powerboats (29419) **12.00** Sports Centre (37007) **12.30am** Rugby Club (61397) **2.00** Spanish Primera Liga (80810) **4.00** Sports Centre (22910) **4.30** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (4010821) **7.30** Sports Centre (1060506) **8.00** Racing (8341235) **8.30** Fish TV (9842457) **9.30** Euro Tour Weekly (8239885) **10.00** Golf Extra (8391490) **1.30pm** Inside the PGA Tour (5089382) **2.00** Ten Pin Bowling (2784070) **4.00** Rebel Sports (7800457) **5.00** Sports Action (2810631) **5.30** Football League Review (9140273) **6.00** Powerboat & Jetski World (9147186) **6.30** Inside the PGA Tour (9138498) **7.00** Sports Centre (2807167) **7.30** Rugby Club (8285544) **9.00** Golf: Suntory Open (2775322) **11.00** Tight Lines (4210029) **12.00** Cricket: Australia v New Zealand — Live (8045028) **2.00am** Sports Centre (8063179) **2.30** Cricket: Australia v New Zealand — Live (5464303)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wrestling (62188709) **1.00** Fish TV (82177457) **2.00** Sportsnite (30029167) **2.30** Golden Age of Motor Racing (88451544) **3.30** Sport USA (10696525) **5.00** World Windsurfing (30011419) **5.30** Pool (35284726) **6.30** Best & Worst (55391506) **7.00** Tight Lines (69720631) **8.00** Sports Action (30003637) **8.30** Trans World Sport (18861815) **9.30** Powerboat & Jetski World (82169436) **10.00** Football Scrapbook (15257032) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

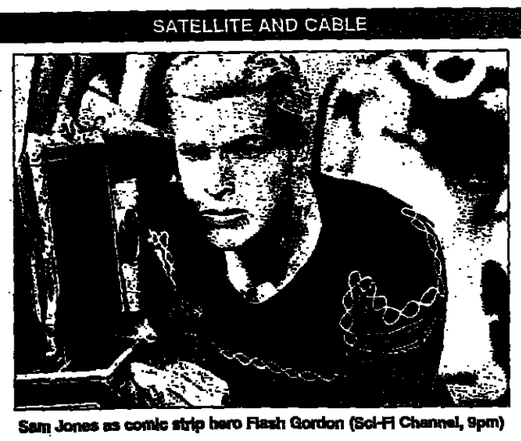
7.30am *Olympic Games Magazine* (75186) **8.00** WPG European Tour Season Review (38099) **9.00** Amsterdam Marathon (59326) **10.00** Drag Racing (84070) **11.00** International Motorsport Magazine (51506) **12.00** Freeride (83631) **12.30pm** Tennis: Kremlin Cup — Live (72341) **2.30** Lausanne Marathon (9728) **3.00** Showjumping (43612) **4.00** Bobsleigh (3780) **4.30** Motors Magazine (84186) **5.30** World Cup Dream Team (3544) **6.00** Football: FC Copenhagen v Betis Sevilla (67780) **8.00** Tennis: ATP Stockholm (86709) **9.30** Football: European Cups (81070) **11.00** Sailing (30148) **11.30** Boxing (53983) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Worzel Gummidge (6242029) **7.35** Neighbours (8629902) **8.00** Crossroads (3498490) **8.25** EastEnders (1892167) **9.00** The Bill (8335254) **9.30** Howards' Way (9385612) **10.00** Bless This House (6680070) **10.30** The Sullivans (8331438) **11.00** Boon (4534544) **12.00** Crossroads (14106070) **12.25pm** Neighbours (14116457) **12.55** EastEnders (1488167) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi (3732902) **2.10** No Place Like Home (7288254) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (2844877) **3.20** The Bill (7248490) **4.00** Juliet Bravo (78201235) **5.05** EastEnders (6027964) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7865186) **6.25** That's Showbusiness (6983490) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4939983) **7.45** No Place Like Home (5414362) **8.20** Citizen Smith (1120254) **8.00** The Bill (1042419) **9.30** Taggart (26216235) **10.35** The Man from Auntie (4647780) **11.15** The Jack Dee Show (1594983) **11.55 FILM: Natural Selection** (1993) (8632235) **1.35am** Miami Vice (3142303) **2.20** Shopping (67219765)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am This Box (7457326) **7.00** Coronation St (8663988) **7.30** Families (8602728) **8.00** *Surprise Surprise* (8600070) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3391235) **10.00** The *Professionals* (8691612) **11.00** *Hart to Hart* (8888148) **12.00** Coronation St (8260934) **12.30pm** *Families* (2120273) **1.00** Blind Date (2125728) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3791728) **3.00** *Donahue* (9957964) **4.00** The Professionals (9976099) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (1874457) **6.00** Families (2918099) **6.30** Coronation St (2982051) **7.00** Blind Date (7570148) **8.00** Hart to Hart (7599995) **9.00** Coronation St (9965963) **9.30** The Comedians (2117769) **10.00** Hawaii Five-O (7579419) **11.00** Close



Sam Jones as comic strip hero Flash Gordon (Sci-Fi Channel, 9pm)

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (34612) **6.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (46341) **7.00** Aladdin: The Series (88089) **7.30** Quack Pack (66506) **8.00** Dinosaurs (15254) **8.30** Bonkers (14525) **9.00** Gummi Bears (25867) **9.30** Groundling Marsh (1143898) **9.55** Small Stories (8860306) **10.00** Sesame Street (54490) **11.00** Winnie the Pooh (5824902) **11.15** Rosie and Jim (8993612) **11.35** Sing Me a Story with Belle (1174693) **12.00** Tots TV (6589051) **12.20pm** Disney Shorts (8638525) **12.25** Big Garage (6518186) **12.45** Winnie the Pooh (74144631) **1.00** Sesame Street (31780) **2.00** Amazing Animals (2964) **2.30** Gummi Bears (3952) **3.00** Tale Spin (1099) **3.30** Goof Troop (2457) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (1964) **4.30** Aladdin: The Series (7148) **5.00** Gargoyles (6544) **5.30** Dinosaurs (1726) **6.00** Blossom (1341) **6.30** Boy Meets World (2683) **7.00** Home Improvement (6780) **7.30** Wonder Years (8677) **8.00 FILM: *Toothless*** (78493) **9.30** Home Improvement (23761) **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Daily (3736341) **6.30** Billy the Cat (1102815) **7.00** *Pinocchio* (4591631) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (4587438) **8.00** Beetleborgs (6032706) **8.30** Masked Rider (6025780) **9.00** Magic Box (6016032) **9.30** Dudley the Dragon (4065341) **10.00** Inspector Gadget (1193167) **10.30** Pizza Cats (6045544) **11.00** Sweat Valley High (4596186) **12.00** Ace Ventura (6036896) **12.30pm** Casper (4078457) **1.00** The Tick (4590902) **1.30** Iron Man (4075726) **2.00** Fantastic Four (7660254) **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo (5347983) **3.00** Beetleborgs (7649761) **3.30** Masked Rider (5359726) **4.00** Ace Ventura (5336235) **4.30** Casper (5334419) **5.00** The Tick (7661608) **5.30** X Men (5356069) **6.00** Spiderman (5348512) **6.30** Sweat Valley High (5339984)

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After (47186) **6.30** Bobby's World (51815) **7.00** Spirou (82273) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (61780) **8.00** Batman (28728) **8.30** Bots Master (27098) **9.00** Art Attack (25821) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (45983) **10.00** Gravedale High (42167) **10.30** Flash Gordon (25885) **11.00** Iznogoud (99815) **11.30** Gigantor (90544) **12.00** Gravedale High (21815) **12.30pm** Bots Master (56099) **1.00** Batman (61544) **1.30** Eek (48070) **2.00** Spirou (5436) **2.30** Flash Gordon (3186) **3.00** Sonic (7273) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (6931) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (4438) **4.30** Art Attack (3322)

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes (92612) **6.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (30525) **7.00** Hey Arnold! (69625) **7.30** Rugrats (48032) **8.00** Doug (53490) **8.30** Neverending Story (52761) **9.00** CBBC (78032) **10.00** Wimzie's House (21877) **10.30** Babar (72525) **11.00** Magic School Bus (44341) **11.30** Bananas in Pyjamas (45070) **12.00** Paddington Bear etc (83877) **12.30pm** Little Red Tractor etc (81761) **1.00** Dr Seuss (68896) **1.30** Little Bear Stories (80032) **2.00** Animal Show (7254) **2.30** CBBC (5802) **3.00** CBBC (6761) **3.30** Rocko/Doug (4419) **4.00** Angry Beavers (6254) **4.30** Rugrats (2438) **5.00** Sister Sister (8506) **5.30** Kenan and Kel (6490) **6.00** Sabrina (6631) **6.30** Moesha (7983) **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm *Swan's Crossing* (8340189) **12.30** Ready or Not (9361896) **1.00** Madison (4530728) **1.30** California Dreams (9360187) **2.00** Saved by the Bell (8507235) **2.30** Swan's Crossing (7261341) **3.00** 9-2-5 (8519070) **3.30** Ready or Not (7273186) **4.00** Saved by the Bell (7252693) **4.30** USA High (7258877) **5.00** Hangtime (6521815) **5.30** California Dreams (7272457) **6.00** On the Make (5494506) **6.15** Teenage Urban Adventurers (6482761) **6.30** Madison (7253322) **7.00** Hangtime (8501051) **7.30** USA High (7259506) **8.00** Close

BRAVO

5.00pm *A-Team* (6772877) **9.00** *Tour of Duty* (6785341) **10.00** Red Shoe Diaries (9161902) **10.45 FILM: *Death Warmed Up*** (44033877) **12.35am** Leslie Nielsen's Unbalanced World (5012674) **12.45** *Tour of Duty* (4436002) **1.45** Red Shoe Diaries (1214636) **2.30 FILM: Meet the Feebles** (8935259) **4.20** Leslie Nielsen's Unbalanced World (53856484) **4.30** The Mole (6438007) **5.00** A-Team (6522113)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (1070) **7.30** Roseanne (3167) **8.00** Ellen (7490) **8.30** Cybill (6525) **9.00** Cheers (31877) **9.30** Taxi (41825) **10.00** Frasier (84506) **10.30** Kenny Everett (73254) **11.00** Festival of Fun (36322) **11.30** Ellen (10761) **12.00** Roseanne (36649) **12.30am** Nightstand (12200) **1.00** Soap (81736) **1.30** Taxi (80303) **2.00** Festival of Fun (39200) **2.30** Grace Under Fire (25007) **3.00** Frasier (74200) **3.30** Kenny Everett (12587) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (4851167) **9.00 FILM: Flash Gordon (1980)** (31763588) **11.15** Friday the 13th (2222934) **12.10am** Sightings (4076945) **1.05** The Twilight Zone (5264218) **1.35** Tales of the Unexpected (9454262) **2.05** Dark Shadows (31049484) **2.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (1302587) **3.00** Friday the 13th (7934991) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (8333896) **9.30** Garden Club (9363254) **10.00** Great Gardening Plot (6888612) **10.30** New Yankee Workshop (8322780) **11.00** Rat Hunt (1053525) **11.30** Hometime

هكذا من الاصل

CRICKET 42
The woman on whom Lord's has come to rely

SPORT

ATHLETICS 46
The man who can never stop running

Liverpool implore key players to stay

European exit sees Evans at the crossroads

By Matt Dickinson

THERE are plenty who will sit in judgment of Liverpool in the coming weeks and months, fascinated, after their early Uefa Cup exit, to see whether a mighty club is doomed to spend yet another season falling short of expectations and silverware. Prominent among a jury of thousands will be some of the Anfield players.

While it is Roy Evans's career that has arrived at a critical juncture, from which he will either lead a resurgent club back up the FA Carling Premiership table or take the path less travelled by Liverpool managers and face an ignominious end to his reign in the summer, it is the long-term future of several of the key players that provides a revealing insight into a team at the crossroads.

Anfield officials have approached Robbie Fowler, Steve McManaman and Jamie Redknapp, the latter while he was in hospital with a broken ankle during the summer, and implored them to sign long, and lucrative, extensions to their contracts. So far, they have declined.

With 18 months left on McManaman's present deal and more than two years to serve for the other pair, the situation is some way short of a looming crisis. Nor should anyone doubt that those players, two of them committed Scousers, would love anything better than to help Liverpool to catch the runaway juggernaut of the Premiership leaders down the M62 at Old Trafford.

In this age of Bosman, Liverpool's haste is understandable. If the talented young trio enter the last year of their contracts, the Anfield club faces the prospect of losing gifted players as well as millions of pounds in transfer fees. But the players' reluctance is equally reasonable and if scepticism about Liverpool's long-term prospects plays a part, who can blame them on recent evidence?

The thrilling 2-0 victory against Strasbourg in the second-round, second-leg match on Tuesday night only emphasised how woeful Liverpool had been in the first leg and, in a season of disappointment so far, it has not been their only aberration.

Evans, understandably, tried to see matters differently. "It could be the turning-point, when the lads decided to change things," he said, but it must surely have been uttered more in hope than expectation because he has a team that, at present, cannot be trusted from one week to the next. He has also made mistakes, picking the wrong team and formation in France and failing to start with Riedle's experience on Tuesday.

That the talent is in his squad is beyond doubt. In attack, Fowler, Riedle and Owen would be the envy even of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager. In midfield, the return from injury of Redknapp looks to have convinced Paul Ince that he does not need to try to win games single-handedly and he is much the better for it, showing signs that his high-class international performances will soon be adapted onto the club stage.

Fowler: approach

The defence, though, remains an Achilles' heel that the possible arrival of a new goalkeeper, Brad Friedel, from the United States, will only partly solve, and Evans must step up his search for a dominating centre half on the lines of Colin Hendry or Steve Bruce, who will not shirk.

If, during Evans's reign, there has been one damning weakness in this Liverpool team, it has been a brittleness of temperament that has been exposed on too many decisive occasions. Manchester United were not a better team over the campaign last year. But they were a stronger one and Ince, a man tutored in the hard school at Old Trafford, appreciates the difference.

"We have the talent, we have shown that," he said. "But we have to show the passion and commitment to go with it, week in and week out. It was a great effort on Tuesday by all the lads, everyone giving that extra bit. But it is no good just performing like that in a one-off situation.

"We believe in our ability. Not many teams could match us on that sort of form. We had nine good chances but we just have to be a bit more ruthless. It is a different mentality. It is harder maybe to lift yourself for the domestic games every week than a one-off game in Europe like that, but we have got to do it."

With Tottenham Hotspur and Barnsley to come in the Premiership before momentous duels against Arsenal and Manchester United, Liverpool have the chance to climb from mid-table. Two wins and they will be back up among the championship contenders. With Europe gone, the alternatives are critical.

Positive Vialli, page 44
Delighted Adams, page 44

VICTORIA MATTHEWS

Laurie Daley, Australia's captain, the scourge of Great Britain at Wembley, in training yesterday for the second international. Report, page 45

New Wigan board bring back Monie

By Christopher Irvine

JOHN MONIE, whose Midas touch as coach brought Wigan rugby league club 14 trophies in four seasons, is to return to Central Park after 4½ years, at the expense of Eric Hughes, who is no stranger to being bundled out of jobs to make way for Australians.

The same thing happened to him at St Helens, where he was unceremoniously dismissed after two years and replaced by Shaun McRae, in January 1996.

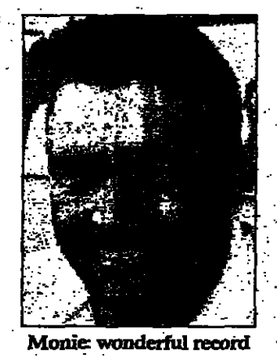
His nine months at Wigan were not without success in what was a difficult season of transition. But Hughes, who is holidaying in Barbados, was contacted last night and told that when he returns it will be to collect his P45.

Wigan have called a press conference today to announce Monie's appointment, the first by the club's new owners since their takeover a week ago. Monie recently turned down an offer to coach a possible new franchise club in Scotland and had made it known, following his dismissal by Auckland Warriors earlier this year, that he would relish another stint at Wigan.

The new board members, Mike Nolan, the chairman, and John Martin, a director who is a close associate of David Whelan, the former Wigan president and chairman of Wigan Athletic Football Club, are believed to have taken Whelan's advice in appointing Monie, who said: "I had a great time here first time round and always held out hopes of having another go one day. I still have a lot of friends in the area."

Any doubts Monie might have had about putting his name to a two-year contract were removed by the financial stability brought to the club by Nolan and Martin, whose £1 million rescue package saved Wigan from possible collapse. Moreover, the Wigan local authority this week approved Whelan's plans for a new 25,000-seat joint-use stadium at Robin Park, which Wigan hope to move to when they leave Central Park in 1999.

When the new regime reportedly vetoed his attempt to sign Paul Rowley, the Halifax hooker, Hughes, who led the team's successful defence of the Premiership title in September, must have known his days were numbered, although even he could not have foreseen the swiftness with which Monie has been ushered in.



Monie: wonderful record

Monie, who is in this country to watch the international series against Australia, first met officials at Wigan on Monday.

There was also interest in him from Leeds, whose first choice to fill the vacancy there is Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, which would rule him out for the job of assistant to Monie at Wigan.

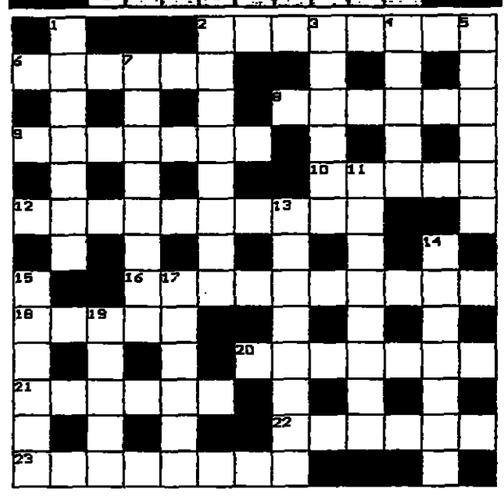
Since his departure in May 1993, Wigan have failed, despite the best attempts of John Dorahy, Graeme West and Hughes, to recapture the dominance of the domestic game that the club enjoyed under Monie, whose record at the club is unrivalled. But it would be wrong to see him as some sort of talisman.

Players in his great Wigan side have grown old or moved on, although with Monie's return and that of Denis Betts, from Auckland, the club has embarked on a policy of back to the future.

Monie brings a cerebral, rational and calculating approach to his coaching, although none of those attributes were enough to save him after three years helping to set up Auckland, where he created one of the best junior programmes in the Australasian Super League.

Nolan said: "John's return proves we're not afraid to spend when necessary or take tough decisions to lead the club to succees. His appointment is the first move in taking Wigan forward."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1244

ACROSS
2 Treasured (8)
6 Paris museum (6)
8 Amuse; send off course (6)
9 Supply (7)
10 Angry (5)
12 Rest and recuperate (10)
16 *Guide me . . . Great Redeemer* tune (3,7)
18 Light beer (5)
20 Indirect; angled (7)
21 Spanish instrument (6)
22 Revolve (6)
23 Trunked pachyderm (8)

DOWN
1 A whiskey; biscuit; royal line (7)
2 Swinging bob on line (8)
3 Reviewer (6)
4 Last Greek letter (5)
5 One posing: Willem de —, astronomer (6)
7 Oral exam (4,4)
11 Again join, stay in, army (2-6)
13 Franz —, composer b. 1797 (8)
14 Fine-tunes (7)
15 Pestilence (6)
17 Ring of flowers (6)
19 Encrusted dirt (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1243
ACROSS: 4 Forks 7 Airborne 8 Eton 9 Delicate 10 Eraser 13 Kidney 14 Forage 15 Sturdy 18 Absinthe 19 Cone 20 Contrite 21 Kings
DOWN: 1 Gaiter 2 Uranus 3 Yonder 4 Feminist 5 Retainer 6 Surety 11 Abrasion 12 Eugenics 14 Franck 15 Siesta 16 Urchin 17 Dinner

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

Holders safely through

SCHALKE 04, the holders, came back with two second-half goals to beat Anderlecht 2-1 in Brussels yesterday and reach the third round of the Uefa Cup. The German side had won the first leg 1-0 two weeks earlier.

Anderlecht levelled the aggregate score as early as the sixteenth minute, when Enzo Scifo, the veteran Belgium playmaker, found Glen de Boeck with a defence-splitting pass. The central defender had no trouble converting the pass.

Anderlecht's hopes of causing an upset lasted until the 58th minute, when Schalke scored two goals in quick succession, both times capitalising on defensive mistakes. First, Spira Grujic failed to mark Marco van Hoogdalem and the Dutch midfield player scored his first goal for the club.

A few minutes later, Marc Wilmots, the Schalke striker, who had also been left unmarked, met a cross from Andreas Müller and headed home the winner. "In the second half we started out more aggressively and it paid off," Rene Eijkelkamp, the Schalke forward, said.

It left Anderlecht needing to score three goals and they never came close. The defeat continued a terrible run for Anderlecht, who have yet to win at home in the Belgian league and have been reduced to championship also-rans after a series of defeats.

Henman through to meet Rafter

By Our Sport Staff

TIM HENMAN will meet Patrick Rafter, the US Open champion, for the first time, in the quarter-finals of the Stockholm Open. Henman, the British No 2, beat Magnus Gustafsson, of Sweden, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 yesterday, while Rafter, the world No 3, knocked out Johan Van Herck, of Belgium, 6-3, 6-4.

Henman, who beat Gustafsson at Wimbledon last year and at Doha in January, got off to a flying start with an early break. He then held his service for a 5-2 lead, saving a break point with an ace, sending down another ace and finally clinching the game when Gustafsson sent a forehand over the baseline.

He had three set points in the ninth game, and the 30-year-old Swede saved the first two, as Henman double-faulted and was outmanoeuvred by a lob. But, at the third time of asking, the No 8 seed won the set with an ace.

Gustafsson, who was cheered on by nearly all of the crowd in a half-full Kungliga Tennishalle, kept his composure as the second set went with service until the sixth game, when Henman was broken with a passing shot. The Swede went on to square the match.

The third set began well for the Briton, however, as Gustafsson lost his service in the opening game. Henman then rolled through the set and [illegible] respect for Tim's game. I'd say it's a 50-50 match, straight down the middle.

"I'm more motivated now than at any other time during the indoor season. I've struggled on the surface the past three or four weeks. It's good to feel like this. I'm concentrating on winning here, not on [the ATP world championship in] Hanover."

Rusedski, who has been troubled by a virus this week, is scheduled to play Lionel Roux, of France, in a second-round match today.

Henman: into last eight

Meanwhile, Karol Kucera beat Thomas Muster, the fifth seed, 4-6, 6-3 — a defeat that may have ruined the Austrian's chances of reaching the world championship in Germany — while Cedric Pioline, of France, defeated [illegible]

Hope for French grand prix

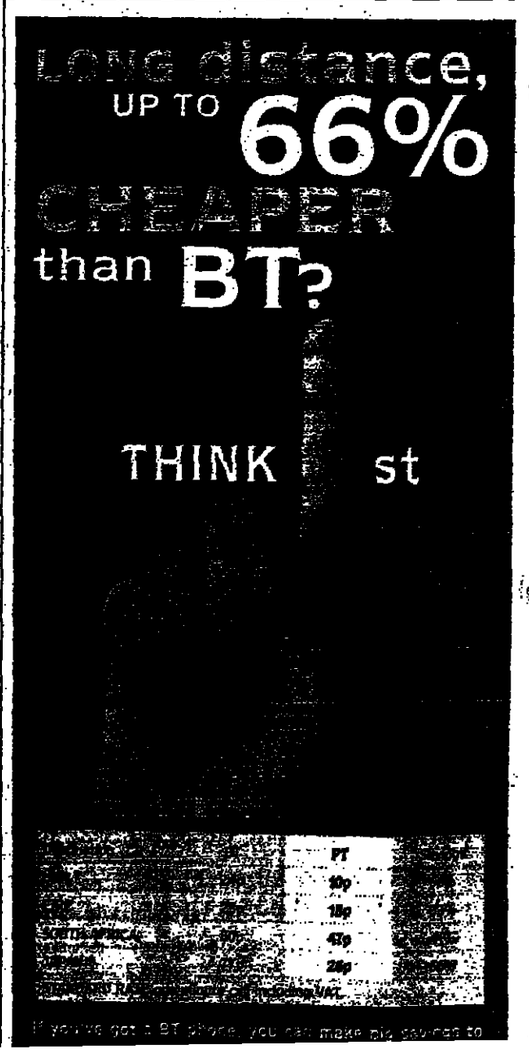
THE French Grand Prix, which was in serious doubt for next season because of a problem over television rights, now looks to have a good chance of getting back on to the Formula One calendar for 1998.

The French government and the FIA, the sport's governing body, are optimistic that they have clarified a national law over access of television cameras which clashes with Formula One championship rights.

A meeting between Max Mosley, the FIA president, and Marie-George Buffet, the French Sports Minister, on Tuesday was due to be followed yesterday by cabinet examination of the clarifying decree.

"We have the impression that we are on the right track to resolving the problem," Mosley said.

"The difficulty consists in resolving, on the one hand, the demands of a great world championship and, on the other, the rights, recognised by all, to information," he said.

The problem arose after a French court ruled this year that all national television channels are entitled to broadcast a race on their soil. This went against the FIA's exclusive rights deal that was arranged with individual broadcasters.

At all other grands prix, television companies are